VMI

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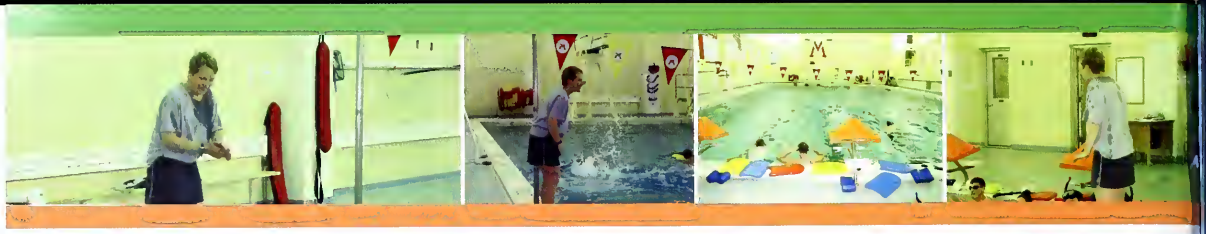
The Bomb 2009
Virginia Military Institute
Volume CXV



dream. act. GO beyond.

2009 Dedication: Colonel Holly Richardson

Colonel Holly Richardson receives the 2009 VMI BOMB Dedication. Born in Iowa City, Iowa, Col. Richardson is a hardcore Hawkeyes fan and considers her roots to be from the Midwest. The biggest reward for Holly is "when there is a real connection made with her students." She describes it as "this can be in the classroom, but most of the time, outside of class. I enjoy seeing the 'ah ha' moment in the swimming pool, or seeing someone float for the first time." She also enjoys seeing first classmen during their last semester at VMI. "I remembered when they attended STP or they were in 'rat drowning.' The growth I see in students is phenomenal." She also takes pleasure in working with students in Rat Challenge during their high ropes training. Col. Richardson's favorite class to teach is anything swimming related. She says "it is the most wonderful thing to be able to love what you do." She also finds teaching her Health Education class very satisfying. "I try to keep it focused on health issues of the college-age population." Col. Richardson is not just an amazing teacher, but a great mentor. She is one teacher no one of 2009 will forget.

Chelsie M. Kosecki
Editor-In-Chief, 2009

■ Advanced Swimming. Colonel Holly Richardson teaches an advanced swimming class for anyone who really enjoys swimming. It is taught once a semester. Pictured above is the Spring 2009 Advanced Swimming Class.

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YEAR IN REVIEW: Where's Moe?

AUGUST 2008- MAY 2009

S M T W T F S

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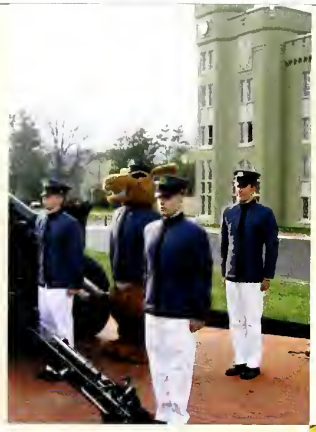
Moe helps fire the canons off at Supper Roll Call Formation.



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FOOTBALL
Beats St. Francis College

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KEYDET FOTBALL
The Corps of Cadets travel to William & Mary College in Williamsburg, Virginia to cheer on the Keydet Football team.

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Moe waits to answer his special with a couple of cadets outside the Commandant's Office.

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CROSS COUNTRY
Places against UVA

WRESTLING
Beats the Citadel

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Moe the Kangaroo participates with the Corps during Legacy Day at VMI.

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RING FIGURE 2008
The class of 2010 receive their rings in November. After the ring ceremony, the second class cadets conduct traditional party rituals.

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Moe marches down with the regimental staff during one of VMI's football games.

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INAUGURAL PARADE
The Corps of Cadets receive an invitation to march in President Barack Obama's parade as he is sworn into office in Washington D.C.

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Moe the Kangaroo marches as day sentinel for the first time in his cadetship.

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MID WINTER FORMAL
The Corps of Cadets have their annual formal dance in February. After the formal, cadets were given a free weekend to spend in Lexington, Virginia.

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RIFLE
Score 2138 - 2092
against the Coast Guard Academy

00

BASKETBALL
Wins against Coastal Carolina

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Moe answers a special to Col. Levenson after being missing from a basketball game.

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Moe the Kangaroo heads to Walmart for the day to help sell VMI apparel and to meet some locals from Lexington, Virginia.

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GOVERNOR VISIT
The honorable Governor Kaine visits VMI to dedicate Kilbourne Hall and also gives the Corps amnesty on April 1, 2009

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RUGBY
Beats Washington & Lee

ICE HOCKEY
Beats Virginia Tech

00

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GRADUATION 2009
The class of 2009 is finally finished with their cadetship and out in the real world, either with a civilian job or with the armed forces.

2009 YEARBOOK THEME

The Virginia Military Institute Mascot: Moe the Kangaroo

In 1947, two VMI cheerleaders saw a picture of a kangaroo on the front of the magazine and realized how uncommon the animal was as a mascot. As one of the mascots was finally procured, a contest was held to give the creature an appropriate name. The prize winning name was "TD Bound."

Sometime later the kangaroo's name was changed to "Moe" in order that he might be associated to all sports at VMI and not just football. So far in history there have been four real "Moes", the last of which was actually a wallaby, the smaller relative of the kangaroo. A kangaroo costume worn by a VMI cheerleader then replaced the live mascot in the 70's so there could be a mascot representative at any VMI contest at home or on the road.

Where's Moe?

Like Where's Waldo, Moe the Kangaroo is hidden and placed throughout the yearbook _____ times.

The challenge is to find Moe in all his different hiding spots throughout the 2009 yearbook.

Your challenge is ahead.

Homecoming 2008

The Court

ALPHA

CHARLIE

DELTA

ECHO

F-TROOP

GOLF

HOTEL

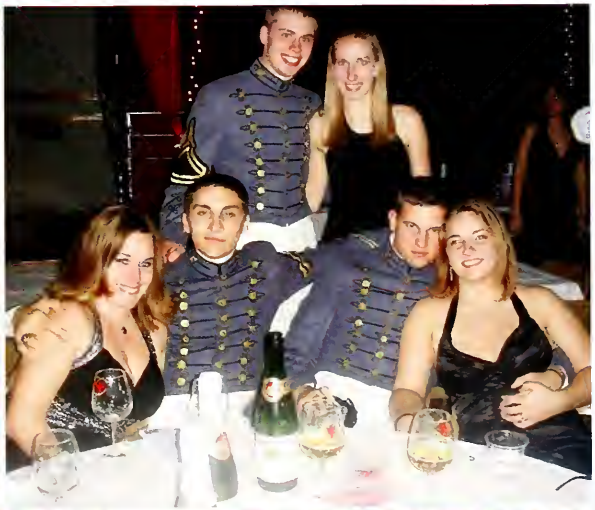
BAND

REG. STAFF

BRAVO

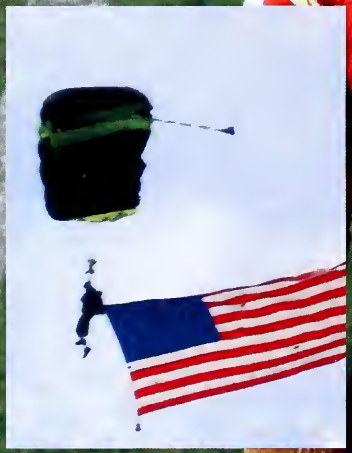
This Year's Winner:
John "JT" Alexander & Ms. Tia Golden

Mid - Winter Formal



The "Corps trip" to Williamsburg

The Commandants Staff, along with Cadet Life, gave cadets a free extended weekend to watch the VMI Keydet football team play against William & Mary on their own turf in Williamsburg.



Tailgating and good times with Brother Rats

TAPS: VMI DEDICATIONS

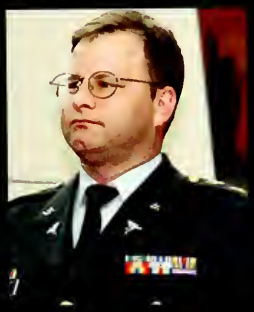
CADET KNIGHT

Cadet Knight, a rising 3rd Class cadet, was killed in an automobile accident in the Isle of Wight County community of Carrollton, Va., where he lived.

DEAN COLONEL STOCKWELL

Colonel Stockwell began work at VMI January 1, 1975, as an Instructor in the Physical Education Department and rose to full Professor of Physical Education, remaining with the department until his promotion to Associate Dean in 1994. He served as acting Dean of the Faculty for the 2000 – 2001 academic year, and has served as the Deputy Superintendent for Academics and Dean of the Faculty for the current academic year. A 1974 graduate of Springfield College, Colonel Stockwell earned his doctorate in health education from the University of Virginia in 1984. In 1986 he received VMI's Thomas Jefferson Distinguished Teaching Award.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL HESS



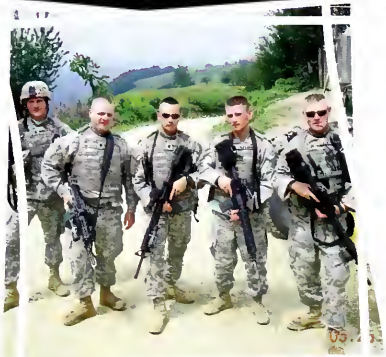
Lieutenant Colonel Hess, 40, joined VMI in 1998, and was responsible for assisting faculty and staff in the use of instructional technology for teaching. He was awarded the VMI Award for Distinguished Service in 2004.

COLONEL GILLIAM

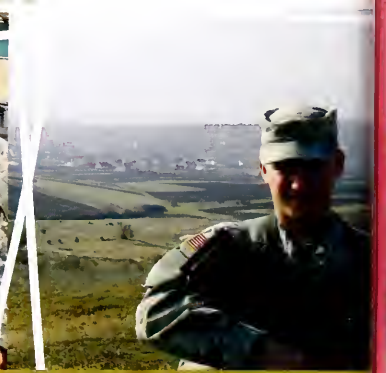
Colonel Gilliam was a graduate of VMI's Class of 1940, and served as editor of the 1940 Bomb. He served in the U.S. Army from 1941 until 1946 in the area of intelligence and security. He served in the Army Reserve until his military retirement in 1978.

Honoring the
VMI VETERANS

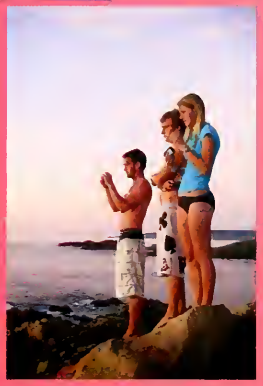
Thank you



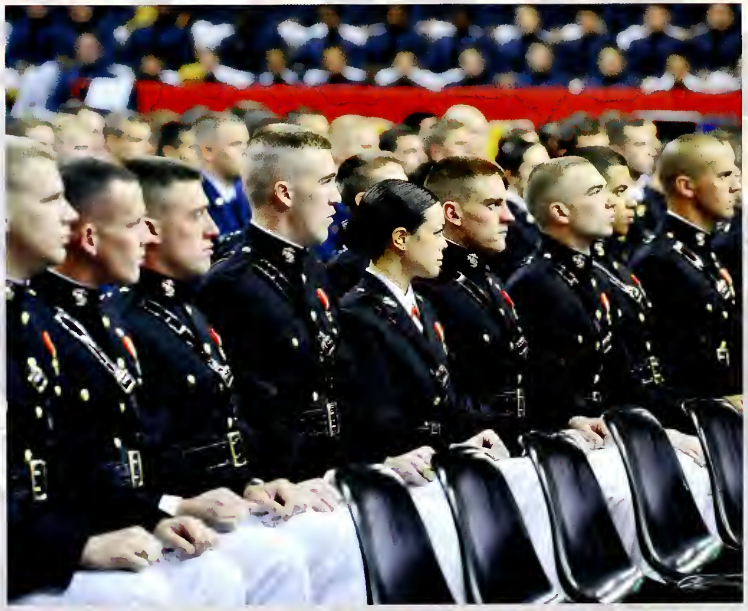
Pictures provided by
Steve Huffman



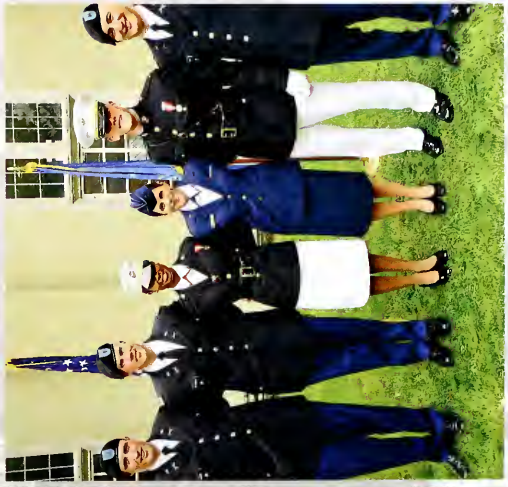
STUDY ABROAD 2008-2009

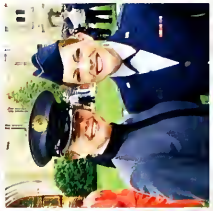


May 15th, 2009



2009 Commissioning Ceremony





THE #1 CLUB

Stories gathered by Cadet Jackie Morton

Wray

I was on my way back to VMI when I said to my partner in crime for the night, "We should go find our good friends, Leo and Nathaniel in NEB!" We found our friends in the basement- they had spent the night in playing halo on a projector. Something about the large moving screen, the sounds, or the bottle of vodka I drank was making me feel ill, so Nathaniel forcefully picked me up and draped me over his shoulders. After we had walked across the parade deck in the rain, Nathaniel's pace slowed and he dropped me against the wall of Jackson Arch at the direction of someone else. I would learn later that this was Capt. Faust. As I slumped down into a puddle and began to fall asleep again, I smiled to myself. I woke up in the hospital.

Messina

So heres the story. Wednesday night of Ring Figure week, our Ring 3rds decide that they're going to buy us some pizza. While my roommates and I are all working on a project, the 3rds decide to watch a movie and enjoy some beverages. Halfway through their movie the TAC walks by, and decides he better take a closer look. He comes in to investigate, walks around the room, asks some questions, then states, "ok guys, I know that you're drinking. Either you give me the bottle, or we are going to tear this room apart and find it." Not wanting other confiscatable items to be found, we end up giving him the bottle of wonderfully delicious, yet really cheap, Kessler's. I tried to bargain with him to just let us pour it down the drain and go on with the night, but he insisted that he had to either bone everyone in the room, or one person could take the hit for everyone. So that's how I got an A-1 for being completely sober.

Morton

It all started with a promise I made myself the week before ring figure: "Jackie, you will not drink in barracks next week." I should've known then something was going to go bad because no one can keep a pledge like that during the (hands down) best week of 2nd class year. I set myself up for failure. After the class dinner, all giddy with camaraderie and the weight of a huge hunk of metal on my hand, I decide to imbibe in a little SoCo to keep the "buzz" going. Minutes or hours or 100k pictures later I decide to finish off the rest of my shared bottle with some friends. Note, I was a novice in-barracks drinker in those days, and I pulled the shade. Big mistake. CPT Blakey, our fearless enforcer, was all over it. A quick knock and an impromptu, yet thorough, inspection produced one empty bottle and one sad, pleading Keydet. L-train later refused to give me back my bottle as a souvenir.

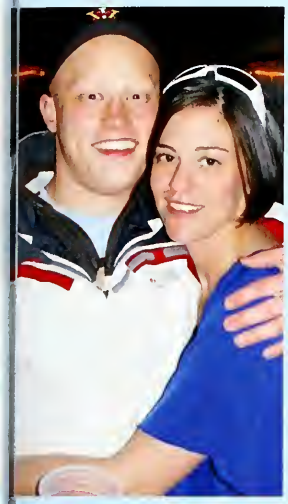
Goldsmith

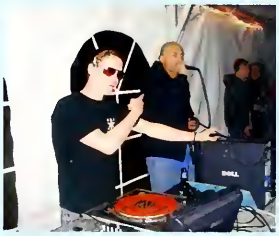
So there I was, a young rat-tie, just weeks from break out, doing my guard shift, and I'm a little thirsty. I ask my roommate, the esteemed Justin Cook, if I could have a sip of his drink. Turns out, it's Wild Turkey. I think..what the heck why not take A SINGLE SIP. A few days later, I was informed that drinking on guard is a self-bone. After much soul searching I asked the not-so-esteemed-prosecutor-who-shall-not-be-named (rhymes with Moe Hill) if it was. He quickly replied that it was, so I grabbed a form 24 and walked it in. The, then, CPT Faust looked at me and said, "well this is not a self bone, but since we know about it now.....go talk to L-train." I did, and found myself marching those 60 PTS that very afternoon. Long story short....I got an A1, and I'm a Company Commander. HA!

Chapman

After playing ODU, the rugby team returned to the Institute with another W on the board. A stop at a restaurant had allowed me (now three weeks deep into my 21st year) to consume excessive amounts of A1 "sauce". Now I can't recall how, but upon arrival to Barracks, I found myself carrying a case of Coors Light. I thought I would enjoy a few Coors when I got back to my room, so I proceeded to carry the case through New Barracks courtyard, down in the Concourse and through the Sinks. Yes, I had a backpack on, but I found no reason to put the beer inside...Epic Fail. I came up the stairs at Lisa's Arch and then had the last fun I would have at VMI. I ran through Old Barracks courtyard not seeing the TAC, OD and OG standing behind the sentinel box. Apparently...they yelled stop, I didn't hear and kept running up the stairs to my room where I threw the case under my desk and sat on my roommates rack. Within seconds Institute Officials were at my door, and the rest is history. The civilian clothes I was wearing won me a =7 on top of the A1.

First Class Parties 2009





AT ZOLLMAN'S AND THE TENT PARTY

VM

2008 11 22

2009 General Committee

President: Finney Kimsey
Vice President: Barrett Luxhoj Historian: John Tagg
GC Secretary: Steven Russell

'09 AND THE CORPS,

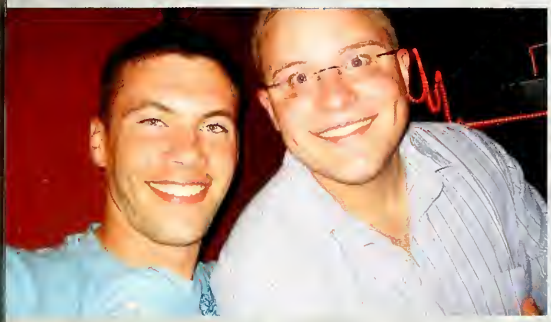
Respect and influence is gained in the class system through the strength of one's character. It is not gained by rank, title or position. Each respective class defines its place in VMI's history through its members and the individual choices they make day by day. With this, each class is as powerful as it chooses to be. The members of the General Committee therefore have only one goal, to maintain the brother rat spirit and the traditions that have made their class great.

My brother rats we have endured hardships and faced challenges by choice, recognizing that the outcome weighs on the efforts of all of us. What will be remembered of us is that we whenever life got hard and all eyes were on us, we were always together and we never gave ground.

Benjamin Kimsey
1st Class President

The Class of 2009

First Class Year



Hamid K. Abdurrahim

Hampton, Virginia
Electrical Engineering
Air Force

Vincent W. Abruzzese

"ABZ"
Newport News, Virginia
History
Air Force

Recycling Club CIC, Newman Club CIC, Pre-Law Society, Civil War Roundtable, Racquetball Club, Stonewall Guard Drill Team ACIC, Cadet Academic Mentor, Cadet Chemistry Tutor, Institute Honors Scholar

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "There is no way to success in our art but to take off your coat, grind paint, and work like a digger on the railroad, all day and every day!" My graduation from the Virginia Military Institute is bittersweet. On the one hand, I am ready for the next phase of my lifes' journey. But, on the other hand, it was here where my potential for success came to fruition, and I have honestly enjoyed my cadetship. I came to VMI because as a high school senior I did not know what path to pursue. My father is an alumnus of this institute and as such I decided to give VMI a try, a decision I shall never regret. It was here that I found my calling and proved to myself that with hard work I can be successful. Like many, I find myself looking back as a First Classman and asking "where did all the time go?" I remember being a rat thinking that time could not pass fast enough. Now I look back thinking that it passed too fast! But, although my four years as a cadet have passed quickly, the time was well spent, and I find myself reflecting upon a wealth of good memories made with my BRs and my rats. It is impossible to make it through VMI without support. I want to thank my dykes of 152 and all of my BRs for their help throughout these years. I also want to thank my parents. Without their spiritual and financial support I would not be where I am today. I hope I have made you proud. Congratulations to my rats (and all of 2012). You are our legacy. Never forget the lessons your dykes have taught you for they are the tools which will make you successful not only as a cadet, but long afterward. And, most importantly, congratulations to the Class of 2009!

David C. Adams

Smithfield, Virginia
History
Marine Corps

Cadet Battery, Civil War Round Table, Drill Team, and Semper Fi Society

I bid you farewell. For four years I have constantly accompanied you on the road to honor and glory. In these latter times, as in the days of our prosperity, you have invariably been models of courage and fidelity. With men such as you our legacy could not be lost. We have sacrificed all of our interests to those of the class and the corps. We go, but we will continue to serve our class. Her happiness was our only thought. It will still be the object of our wishes. Do not regret your fates; we who have consented to survive, do so in the service of her ('09) glory.

We have written the history of the great achievements we have performed together. Adieu, my friends. Would I could press you all to my heart. Napoleon Bonaparte to the Old Guard- April 20, 1814

DKYE 2006: Bryan Yerger
RAT 2012: Kyler Fuller

DYKE 2006: Kirby Smith
RAT 2012: Marty Tucker, Glen Ingham, Raphael Dongleux

DYKE 2007: Justin Blanks
RAT 2012: Josh Viscontl, Clay Mosk

Remington D. Adams
"Rem", "Rembo", "Rem-Dog"
Barrington, New Hampshire
Psychology
Marine Corps

Mens Varsity Lacrosse. Marshall New Market Battalion Commander. Remedial Fitness Program CIC

I would like to express my deepest thanks and love to both my parents Wayne and Susan and my uncle Doug for their constant support over the past four years. When the times were tough and the picture looked bleak, you were always just a phone call away. Also, I want to thank Emily for her love and for all the sacrifices that she made while I was away. I could not have asked for a greater gift than her love and support. Lastly, I would like to thank my roommates Pat, Jared, and Dave for all the good times and constant laughs, it made this experience worth every minute. If there is one thing I wish to leave with everyone, it is that no matter how hard the situation may present itself or how much pain you experience, whether it be heartache, stress, or anger, the friends you have at VMI will always be there for you. Those who suffer together stay together. Never let your brother rat hit the ground without you being there to pick him up. The bonds we make within the barracks walls will last a lifetime, and it is this bond that has made all the difference. I wish all my brother rats the best of luck in their future careers. It was a true pleasure to have known you all.

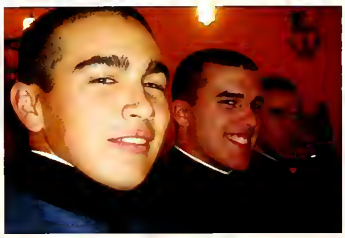
DKYE 2007: Jason LaCerda
RAT 2012: Andrew Nieminski

Justin Y. Adkins
"Crazy Asian"
Bishopville, Maryland
Mechanical Engineering
Air Force

NCMT, S3 Staff, Glee Club

WOW!!! These four years have gone by so fast. I still can look back and remember Matriculation Day and looking up as I stood in New Barracks, seeing all the 3rds and 2nds looking down on us thinking "what have I gotten myself into?" However, I had the best dyke and uncle-dykes and co-dykes anyone could ask for. Okay, so the ratline now is a blur, and 3rd class year...even though it was the academic ratline, Room 385 (The Batcave) still had fun (Dancing randomly to some European techno song). Oh, I must thank Nick Biggert, for all the entertainment Matt and I got at his expense, I still think you're too easy (not in that way of course). 2nd class year was the next step, or should I say one drink after another (figuratively speaking of course). We had a new room and a new roommate (Conor 'Cawndor' and Room 249). RF was an absolute blast, thankfully my date didn't have the priviledge of seeing me, running around at the tent party in 30 degree temperatures with my shirt off screaming like a wild banshee. I still don't remember most of that night...AWESOME! And now I'm in fourth and final year (YESS!). The beloved and 'put up on a pedestal best time of your life' year. This is the one I WILL never forget; never forget Room 149, right in between Krummcake and 'Beefcake!' McClish. Unfortunately those times are restricted to only first semester, cause 149 became 3-112 (this means we're in 3rd barracks now) during the second semester. Still the same wild and crazy place, just in a newer, slightly bigger room. Now that I'm at the end looking back, it is true what people say about time flying by. It really did, although at times it took forever and seemed like graduation was never in our reach.

DYKE 2006: Patrick Tangonan
RAT 2012: N/A



Andrew M. Adldoost

Roanoke, Virginia
Electrical Engineering
Air Force

DYKE 2007: Travis Carter
RAT 2012: Beu Bowles, William Klick

John T. Alexander III

Charlotte, North Carolina
Economics
Navy

Cadre (3,2,1), Bravo Company Commander (1), Semper Fi Society

I would like to give a shout-out to my family, my mom, dad, Marcus-Baby Boy, Sydney, Gran, Aunt Peggy, Kirsten, Shakiri, my grand dad- John the first, my grandma - Cora, my grand ma - Dorsey, my other mom and dad, Mr. and Mrs. Holloway and definitely my Aunt Francis, who is an angel watching over me right, and to all my other family members I didnt forget you and I thank you as well, I got much love for you. Then I have to give a shout out to my friends, first up, my fiancée Tia, and my boys Willie-Beamin and Reggie. We go way back to riding big wheels and putting soda cans on our bike tires to make them sound like motorcycles, to having rock fights at Avalanche Mountain, beat boxin and freestylin at the big green thing when the street lights came on, you know what I am talking about! I also have to extend the shout-out to all of Woodridge, Ridgewood, and Amber Wood past and present. To all of my friends that traveled with me through elementary, to middle school then high school. Definitely remember all my people in Ms. Thomas' homeroom class in 8th grade, some crazy things happened. A shout-out to the teachers that made me go to college even though I didn't want to. I would like to shout out General Dynamics where I made money but learned I cannot have a desk job. Then a shout-out to my people of club 202, and Bravo, Club 202: Cortes, Hlavaty, Staab and Wiezorek. The council for life: Club 202 plus Glomb, Kelrstead, Nash, Saunders, and Smith. I definitely cannot forget to shout out VMI Theater and the best director ever, Joellen. There are too many people in Bravo, but we all stay Ball Bustin, Pimpin and Hustlin, so respect our Gangsta, One Heart! Then there are the people who really got me through school, Hong Kong, Dominos, Papa Johns, the fine establishments that serve fine beverages in the Lexington area except the Palms, you aren't a part of this shout-out, HHHEEEEYYY! Then shout out to EGBU! Shout-out to the Navy and I can't forget senior, the best sailor in the world, I ain't mad at ya, ONE!

DKYE 2006: Jeremy Hefner
RAT 2012: Issac Sireci, Melvin Pierre

Andrew M. Aloisio

"Drew", "Choopie"
Tampa, Florida
Biology
Army

Rat Challenge, Soccer Club, Golf Cadre, Marathon Club, Beta Beta Beta Honor Society

Looking back at my time at VMI, it is difficult to describe how I feel about the experience. Like every major life decision, there were pros and cons to matriculating at VMI. But why dwell on the negative? Every cadet can think of numerous ways to improve the quality of life at VMI. However, I think that a higher quality of life for the Corps would take away from what makes VMI special. Any group of people who deal with adversity have a unique bond with each other. And thats what strikes me most about the Institute, its ability to forge relationships that will no doubt stand the test of time. I would like to thank everybody who made my experience at the dear "Mother I" a memorable one. All of my roommates through the years, the honorary roomies dubbed The Choops, Golf Company (by far the best on the hill), all of my bio & chem classmates (I'll never forget the long nights in New Science, Josh you are nuts, Jared you're hilarious, Tom you need to work harder, Jen, Kelsey, Sculley, Bert, Carlton, Jake, Jake, Casey, Kimi, Al, Megan, Andy... Nate, SMB is the coolest thing to ever hit VMI! Everybody I knew helped make me who I am today, and for that I am eternally grateful. I will miss you all. Until next time, good luck.

DYKE 2006: Derek Gouker
RAT 2012:

Daniel C. Allen

"Dan"
Roanoke, Virginia
Economics & Business
Air Force

This has been one of the most interesting experiences of my life. Most of the time it wasn't fun but in the end the friends I have come out of here with make up for all of that. From the time that I got here I have been lucky to have great roommates, rat year with Ryan, Rick, Chavis, and D Wood, to 3rd, 2nd, and 1st class years with Ryan, Rick, and Robbie. I couldn't have asked for a better group to count down the days with me. There have been so many good times spent in the room, from things like extreme sock volleyball to SNARF SPOOK Christmas lights that no one could figure out the meaning too. If only there had been a video camera that could have recorded the things that went on in our room we would be able to make a reality TV show out of it. The randomness of the conversations would blow peoples minds. Some of my best memories have come from just hanging out and chillin with my friends. Hangin out in my friends rooms, or McCoys Deli, The Southern Inn, Hunnans, or just taking a ride and enjoying music were amazing times. As many times as I've wished I wasn't here I wouldn't trade those times with my friends for anything in the world and I hope we can stay in touch and keep having good times like those. My family has also been there for me through the last 4 years, making sacrifices to help me out so that I could be here, making sure that I stayed positive and kept my grades up so that I would be able to stay here. I want to thank them for what they have done because without them I wouldn't have been able to make it either. The days here have always been long, but somehow it seems like the weeks and months just fly by. I can't believe its all coming to an end, and were finally getting out of here, but part of me kind of wishes there was another year where we could all hang out and relax. Like I said earlier my friends and family are the ones who got me through VMI, you all know who you are and I want to thank you so much for making this place as enjoyable as possible. I will never forget any of you all and my door will always be open if anyone needs anything. Thanks again, I hope we can all move on to great things and stay in touch.

DYKE 2006: Ekkarach Chimpong
RAT 2012: Jesse Szwargulski

Andrew J. Alto

Victorville, California
Modern Languages & Cultures
Marine Corps

Well, its been four years and I learned things that I never thought Id learn. Things like the necessity to do laundry weekly, or that hot showers can be just as bad as just cold showers, or that tall people aren't as trustworthy as the short ones but are good for reaching things that are also tall. or that snow can last longer than just on the morning and also that old men in coatees are better than we all thought.

DKYE 2007: Patrick McGill
RAT 2012:

Jacob. A. Ammon

"Texy"
Cameron, Texas
Mechanical Engineering
Navy

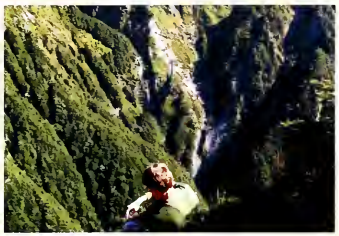
Triathlon Club, Marathon Club, Texas Club, Rat Challenge Cadre

My time at VMI has shown me what really matters to me. God, my family, and my friends are who mean the most to me. Without them life wouldn't have been nearly as interesting. I thank them for helping me get through here.

I tried to spend what time I could chill'n with the guys. I will never forget the crazy times and late nights with the Hotel guys, 09 ME guys, 09 Navy guys, and the 116 Emporium guys. Being an engineer means that most of my free time was allotted for the hill sprints up the mountain of science. I'm just glad that I had my Brother Rats next to me to help me through it all.

I think about the mountains I have climbed, the rivers I have crossed, the competitions I have sweated through, the darkest of hours I have made it through, the coldest of nights of guard that I have made it through, the projects I have completed, and the rigors of the ratline that I have endured. There is no where else that I would have been able to do all that I have done here... and that makes me smile. It makes me smile because I know I have done something with my life.

DYKE 2007: Colin Adams
RAT 2012: Jon Doxsee



Joshua N. Anderson

Richmond, Virginia
History
Marine Corps

Pipe Band (4 Years), NCMT (1st Class Year), Bulldog (1st, 2nd Class Year)

I cannot honestly say that the past four years have been the best of my life, they are certainly memorable, however I have constantly struggled to survive at VMI, not to mention struggling to even get in. My parents have always taken the time to remind me of the people who have helped me, even carried me, through this place: the teachers, the friends, and most importantly them, my parents. From my rat academic advisor, who fought with me to get me to do what I needed to do to stay, to my roommate, who told me what I needed to hear to change and left me no choice but to change, and even the friendly Commandant's Staff member who I've watched rise through the bureaucratic ranks in the offices next to Jackson Arch, who beat the concept of "follow the rules" into me with the swift hand of justice. With 500 words I cant thank everybody who got me through here, but you know who you are, and I cannot thank you enough for putting up with me and helping me, most importantly my parents.

For my rat- Johnny, I hope that I have prepared you not only to succeed here, but outside of here, which is where it matters. I've tried to teach you based off of my mistakes, lessons learned through consequences that I wouldn't wish on my worst enemies. Based on what I see today, you are prepared for the worst that they can throw on you, and you can probably go through it with a smile on your face. My Dad once told me something that I didn't take to heart until recently: "Don't let the (expletive deleted) get you down". This places sucks, but if there's anybody that can succeed here, its you. Thanks for helping to make first class year tolerable rat-tie.

DYKE 2007: Joshua Taylor
RAT 2012: John Alerding

Stephen B. Anderson

"Steve-o"
Yorktown, Virginia
Economics & Business
Air Force

NCAA Soccer

Thank you Jesus for not only allowing me the strength to survive VMI, but also for helping me grow throughout my experience here. It is to you whom I am forever grateful. Thank you mom and dad for pushing me to excel here. Thank you for setting examples in your own lives on how to never quit; that has inspired me beyond measure. I love you both. To my siblings: Thanks for driving all those hours to come free me from VMI. Your constant support has been priceless, and I know that our relationships have only continued to grow. I love you all. Mervin: Ever since rat year you have been like a brother to me. It has been a blast hanging out with you on and off post, and I look forward to more times to come. I will never forget times like when you lit yourself on fire, through Ben's action figure out the window and all the crude things you would call your loving roommates. Ben: It has been a blast being your roommate for all four years. You as well, have been like family. Memories from watching you fall off my bed, fall down the steps of the theatre, and sleeping in the most uncomfortable positions possible, as well as making fun of Chris and Leon, are memories that I will always laugh at. Even though it took me a little while to get used to your strange habits, I have grown to respect you and really cherish our friendship. Never forget Matthew 6:33. Chris: All those endless nights of studying and preparing really built our friendship as well as my GPA. All four of you have made my experience here at VMI something that I will always miss. I love you all. Jose, Barrett, Greg: BFSS was intense and upsetting, but I will never regret going through it with you guys. Rats: You all are great guys. It was fun being your dyke. Never quit, remember the verses I gave you. Class of 09: It has been an honor. God Bless.

DKYE 2006: Dan Rogers
RAT 2012: Robert Seatherton & Ayao Sossou

Jose G. Andueza

"Posey", "Duizi, Jos", "Latino Heat"
Richmond, Virginia
International Studies
Navy

VMI Soccer, Model Arab League

VMI has been a wild ride. There have been good times and there have been bad times. No matter when it was good or bad, one thing is certain: you can't make it through VMI without your boys. To all the guys on the soccer team especially Greg, Stephen, and Barrett: it's been fun. Who can forget the times in the locker room or late SRC. By the way, that song you guys always sang during shower time for four years still doesn't make any sense. Jaime, it's been good times mate. To my dyke, I know I didn't make your life any easier by stashing empty bottles in your room all the time, but I have to say that my rat/4th class year was probably my wildest year at VMI because of you. To Patrick, Eddie, and all the rats of '10 remember that VMI is just 4 years of your life. You guys will do well here if you want to. To my roommates, room 101 otherwise known as the "Gaza Strip" and the Bat Cave because of all the construction, it's been a hell of a ride. I love you guys plain and simple. We have plenty of stories that we will always laugh about. Joe Joe: first formal room inspection rat year with your two bathrobes and orange swim trunks getting pulled out of your laundry bag, "I'm a champ at this game baby," "you'll get sloppy seconds," "José the child lock, take the child lock off," your searching for women in the middle of the dance floor during ring figure. Mark: Saturday morning of ring figure before parade, "I slept through class again man," "I got to get my life together," kicking in doors rat year, the Green Machine, partying at William and Mary in class dyke, 12 minutes to greatness. Edwin: hitting up the Latin Clubs in Richmond, "wait for me," salsa videos, constant hours on the phone/computer, reggaeton, getting skunked at JMU playing beer pong. Dennis: "I went to the Bahamas over break," music wars with Edwin third class year, "treat them like dirt they will stick on you like mud." And 1 basketball moves. Thank you to everyone who has helped me through this place. Mom, Dad, and Andreina, I love you and thank you for everything you have done for me

DYKE 2007: Addison Palanza
RAT 2012: Eddie Coglio & Patrick Karnwie

Robert W. Appel

"Robbie", "Apple"
Sterling, Virginia
Mathematics
Army

Football

4 years—gone. I, as well as many others, never thought VMI would be the place I ended up to continue my education. Mom, Dad—I think we all are shocked at how things have turned out. It's amazing at how fast the years have flown by since coming down here in August of 2005. All the weekends and holiday breaks driving down here to get me and bringing me back, all the trips to Walmart to make it as long as possible before I had to come back; I want to thank you both for all the support and push that you've given me to catapult me through here. It wasn't easy to make it—but I did it. Ryan, Rick, and Dan—where to begin. How could I possibly even begin to scratch the surface of what has happened since the beginning of 3rd class year. The last 3 years with you guys has flown by. The countless times we stayed up until 2AM playing the "word chain" game. I'm not quite sure that any normal person would understand the things that go on in our room nor would they want to. I'm still waiting for that camera to make a reality TV show just of our room. Ryan—stay away from red Gatorade and the Goonfars of the world. You consider it community service and the rest of us just consider it a bad decision; though it does make for a good story. Rick aka D-Pantz—you will never be able to beat me in COD4, nub. You can have COD5: that game is worthless. Dan—we're good people, man. Always will be. Take care of yourself and find a girl some day that will tolerate cleaning up after a long night. Give up the SoCo man, it smells terrible. Remember to row up the proverbial creek with the proverbial paddle. Next time, make it to the tent party. Riley and the 115 rats—stay on top of your grades. Don't let them fall and play Xbox all the time. Spenc—where's that monitor you've been waiting for? Swaggles—use your inside voice more often. J-Mac—we're still waiting on the Indian video dance. Slagle—post it up and beat it out the frame; spoken like a true winner. Riley—keep on top of things man. By the way, I think Bennett wants to be your friend; you should definitely give him a hug the next time you see him. I think he would appreciate it. Good luck in the Army.

DKYE 2009: John R. Herzog III
RAT 2012: Riley Ewen

Domonique R. Baker

"DQ"

Chesapeake, Virginia

Economics & Business

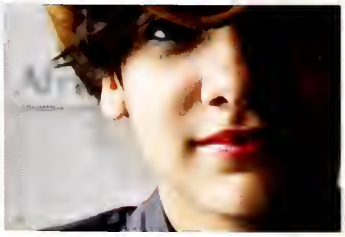
Air Force

VMI Theater, Post Tours, BAC, Cadet Counseling Services

I was not expecting to learn all the things VMI taught me. It was interesting to say the least. The thing I love the most about this place is the people I met and the friendships I will have for my entire life. I wouldn't be here if it weren't for my family and my support systems outside of here. I love my grandparents, thank you for your love all these years! I love you mum! You are the strongest woman I know and you make me believe I can do anything I want. I love you Alexa! You have been the best roommate ever, and I know we will continue to have great times together! You're so beautiful and smart, you will do great things in this world and I can't wait to see you be successful! Thanks to all my theater peeps! Joellen, Tom, JT, Chris, Shane, Joker, and Especially Sara! I love you girl! Thanks to the business department, Col. Bush I would have died without you! Col. Brodie, you are the best band director ever! Thanks for all the great times and trips. I know my brother rats will be successful people, I can't wait to see you all running the country, and I only hope you do as well as we did in barracks this year. Rats- stay strong, and remember, you will always be someone's rat! Olivia I love you! You're the best rat I could have asked for. Good luck everyone, and remember It's not mean if it's the truth, that's what I always say! Reach for the stars, you can never go wrong and don't forget where you came from and who you are.

DYKE 2006: Jessica Fulton

RAT 2012: Olivia Moore



William J. Ballou

Suffolk, Virginia

Electrical & Computer Engineering

Army

Drill Team

Success Leads to Stagnation

Stagnation Leads to Failure

Failure Leads to Maturity

DYKE 2006: Joey Tyler

RAT 2012: Josh Lynch

Rammy G. Barbari

Alexandria, Virginia

International Studies

Air Force

Omicron Delta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Sigma Iota, Phi Eta Sigma, The Cadet Newspaper Managing Editor, International Club President, Model Arab League Cadet Equity Association, Pre-law Society, S-2 Lieutenant

I would have never made it through this place without the love and support of my family and friends. Mom and Dad, you both truly are the greatest parents anyone could ask for and I am so appreciative of what you both have sacrificed for my success. Nothing I've accomplished would have been possible without you. Thank you so much…for everything! I love you! Christina and Kelly, being your big brother has been one of the great honors of my life and I wish you both nothing but success in the future. To my roommates: what a ride it has been. Whether it was helping me finish a run or coming to get me after I flipped that car on 81, you all were there through the good and bad. I know we'll stay in touch and I love you guys. To the Science & Security crew: I grew closer to you all in a few months than I have with people I've known my whole life. I will never forget last summer and those memories will live on forever. GW, G-town, Starbucks, Chipotle, the Library, JBKO Ibiza & Club 710 – we ran DC and I wouldn't have wanted to be there with any other group! I love you all! To my professors: I couldn't have asked for a better educational experience and I respect and admire each and every one of you. You taught me everything I need to know to move forward and succeed and I want you all to know that you've made a huge difference in my life!To my rat: You were a great rat and I couldn't have asked for a better one. You earned your place here and I'm proud of the man you're becoming. I hope I was able to teach and instill in you some sense of what this place is all about. Just keep charging forward and trust me, these four years will go by faster than you think. I don't know how much I'll miss this place, but the one thing I'm sure of is that I will miss my Brother Rats more than anything! VMI promises a lot, but the one constant no matter what, has been brotherhood, and for that, I will be forever grateful!

DKYE 2006: Dennis Crump

RAT 2012: David Hayes

Joel R. Barnes

Roanoke, Virginia
History
Air Force

Civil War Roundtable

Well its been real and its been fun, but it hasn't been real fun. The years flew by and it seems as if only yesterday, we were watching our dykes graduate. But our time has come and it is time to leave this place of "higher" education. I will truly remember you all, and will look back on the many memories that we have made.

Mervin L. Barrow II

"Merv"
Williamsburg, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Army

VMI Wrestling, VMI Football, Honor Court President (4)

Well, I really can't believe it's time to write one of these things! It truly would be a lie if I said I wasn't going to miss this place. It's funny how VMI can grow on you; I most certainly never thought I would meet a whole new family here. The only way I ever made it through this place is family. Mother and Father, you both thought I was crazy for wanting to come here! Haha, I think you were right! Yet you have supported me in all the choices, whether they were good or bad. Adelle (or DORA as someone might say) and Angela! You are by far the best sisters a little brother could ask for! Roommates (Stephen, Ben, and Chris) It has been a long long road! Haha, you guys have been with me from the beginning and I just have to say thank you for putting up with my snoring, my stinky feet, my vulgar actions and words. You will always be like family to me! To all the gents that help me get through Mechanical engineering, thank you for taking the time to help me! I would name all of you, but you (PDBS) know who you are! Seriously though thank you for taking the time to help me! To all my gents on the 08 09 and 10 court! I couldn't have asked for better men to be around, we have all suffered through many nights of lost sleep and poor grades! Haha let us never ever forget what all our sacrifices were for! APs aka (BBB) s KEEP FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT! Rats! (ZACK, SYMBA, XIN, AYO, BOB, NICK, MIKE, ROB) don't you dare forget the things we have taught you! You guys have been great RATS and I just wanted to say thanks for being such good sports! I know we messed with you guys a lot but it was all in good fun right? Haha! You all will be successful in whatever it is you choose to do! Just make sure you never sell yourself short! Never give into temptation and never forget what our CODE stands for. A special thanks is long overdue to all the coaches that took a chance on me! Thank you for putting your faith in me to represent my team and institution! To the McCabe family! Thank you for all your support! Ty, Tommy, Cornelius, Dustin, Sammy, daddy Dave! I look up to you gents! Thanks for support.

Joseph W. Bartol

"Joe", "Jose", "Don Bartoli"
Glen Allen, Virginia
International Studies
Army

Virginia Historical Society 1st and 2nd class years, Pre Law society 1st class year, Ranger Challenge 2nd and 3rd class year, MMA Team 1st class year, and Wrecking Crew 1st class year.

Starting out, I thought VMI would be something much like the stories my dad told me. He is a graduate of the class of 79'. For better or worse, VMI has changed a lot. Not only since my father graduated, but even since I have been here as a cadet. Some things were to be expected, but some things came as a total shock to everyone. I guess the important lesson to draw, whether I agree with the changes or not, is that everything is changing all the time. This place has made me grow up and realize just how lucky I am. I say lucky because I truly am blessed to have spent these four years with my brother rats. These are some of the best people I have ever met and have molded my life to something that it would have never been without them. I came to VMI anxious to learn, but worried about what the future held. I met people and learned that together through team work and brotherhood, anything is possible. I would like to give a special shout out to my dad, because without all his love, support, and encouragement none of my great life experiences learned at VMI would have been possible. I may have been one of those guys that always complained about what the institute was having us do in a day to day basis, but in retrospect I know I will miss it, no matter how much it sucked. People I'll Never Forget: Joe Purello, Chris Rau, Thomas Gottwald, Dan Bogert, Tim Papenfuse, Shaun Ruark, and Emilie Waickwicz . Things I'll never forget: Breakout, Army Crap, Third Class Year, Ring Figure, and First Class Year.

DYKE 2006: Clint Williams
RAT 2012: Bryce Aker, Kevin Holdren, Max Yates

DYKE 2006: Brian Yanetti
RAT 2012: Andrew and Zach

DYKE 2006: Tim Papenfuse
RAT 2012: Shaun Ruark

Andrew J. Beard

Powhatan, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Navy

Pipe Band, Rugby Club

Thanks to everyone, especially my family, for all of the support. It definitely made life easier at VMI.

Willie M. Bell

Newport News, Virginia
Economics & Buisness
Air Force

NCAA Basketball

Jarrett L. Bennett

Sutherlin, Virginia
Economics
Army

RDC, Cadre, Power Lifting, Body Building, Soccer

Thanks to my family for all the help and support you have given me to get through this place. To my roommates, I can only think of how popular and rich we would be right now if we would have taped our room and made a reality show out of it like we said we would. To all my friends here, I'm going to miss the hell out of you guys, we had some great times together. Charlie and Huff, I hope I taught ya'll a thing or two this year. Take what ya'll have learned about yourselves and use it to better yourself and I have no doubt that you two can strive to do whatever you want to in life. Don't let this place get you down too much. Oh yea, thanks for the optional and haydown you gave me at the beginning of the year Charlie! Ha ha just kidding. To all the rats of room 119, you guys were great, tough it out and graduate. I'm out....

DKYE 2009: Christian Brown
RAT 2012: AJ Trujillo

DYKE 2006: LeVar Joseph
RAT 2012:

DYKE 2006: Jason Fraser
RAT 2012: Charlie Wheeler

Evan S. Berenholtz

Baltimore, Maryland
International Studies
Navy

Trap & Skeet Team, Lacrosse, Officer of Guard Association

About three years ago I stood in a very different place. When I was told how fast my remaining time would go I was skeptical. Turns out it really goes faster. Describing this experience in so many words is impossible, so I won't even try. Sure this place sucks, but there were good times too, right? We all make mistakes. I guess all I can really say is that this place got me where I wanted to go, and for that I am grateful. I am sure my classmates will see to that. To my parents: I'm glad you finally saw things my way. I love you both very much and want nothing more than to make you proud of me. To my friends: There were probably more bad times then good but here we are. We win. Tyler: Hold strong and you will get where you want to be, I guarantee it. I'm always there for advice. To everyone commissioning: Come home safe. They teach you to be proud and unbending in honest failure, but humble and gentle in success; not to substitute words for action; not to seek the path of comfort, but to face the stress and spur of difficulty and challenge; to learn to stand up in the storm, but to have compassion on those who fail; to master yourself before you seek to master others; to have a heart that is clean, a goal that is high; to learn to laugh, yet never forget how to weep; to reach into the future, yet never neglect the past; to be serious, yet never take yourself too seriously; to be modest so that you will remember the simplicity of true greatness; the open mind of true wisdom, the meekness of true strength."
-Gen. Douglas MacArthur

DKYE 2006: Paul Welsh
RAT 2012: Tyler Griffith

Nicholas D. Biggert

Fresno, California
Mechanical Engineering
Air Force

Looking back, it seems that the past three and a half years have passed by quickly, though we all endured many hardships and tribulations during our Cadetships. It has always been a well known fact that when you're here at the I, you hate the place, but when you leave, it seems as though there's a void that needs to be filled. I know that I will definitely miss being at VMI even though there was much that we all had to endure to succeed in graduating from this place.

Its not that one misses VMI because of the place, but rather the people. I wish the best of luck to all of my BRs and look forward to seeing them sometime in the future at reunions. To my roommates throughout the years, you guys have been awesome and I hope that we can stay in contact though we all are going our separate ways. To the Rats, Doug and Corbin, remember that VMI is purely mental. Play the game right and you both will figure out what you need to do to succeed through your Cadetships.

Lastly, I would like to thank my family, especially Mom and Dad. From Rat year to First Class year, you both have always been there for me when I needed you. I love you both very much. Also to my girlfriend Meghan, you always went out of your way to make it up here for football and basketball games and always provided the love and support that made being at VMI easier. Thank you to all who have impacted my life while being at VMI.

DYKE 2006: Clint Edwards
RAT 2012: Doug Alvey, Corbin McKee

Robert T. Blackman

"Trent", "T-Pain", "Man de black"
Sandston, Virginia
Civil & Environmental Engineering
Army

Football 4, Ranger Challenge 2, 1. Honor Court 2, 1. ASME 2, 1. Trap and Skeet 1.

I often wonder why I chose VMI over normal college. I've missed out on the Frats, sororities, sex, and alcohol. I believe that part of development is an important stage in life that VMI cadets miss out on. In order to put things in perspective I reverse the roles as to if I were a student at a normal college and try to figure out what the difference between the two lifestyles is. The difference is that people at "normal" college have not had the "privilege" of knowing the great friends that I have made over the past 4 years. We made the best outcome out of every opportunity thrown at us, whether it was here at the "I" or at a nearby college. You don't love VMI for what it stands for but the reason you keep coming back is because your best friends are here. So the only regret I have is missing out on the normal college experience. To the Roommates: Matty, B-rad, Fat J, Chris, Duncan, and Krumm. I thank you for the great times within the rooms over the past years and the awesome trips and experiences we have shared together. To Roxy: You are by far the coolest friend that is a girl a guy could ever get to know and I know you two are going to do great things in life. I love you and your family like my own. To the CE Guys: Jake, John Saun, Gary, Karl, Rhys, Bizzle, and everyone else... No matter how many all-nighters we pulled going through the Bott line and that super-cool Water resources lab, we always had fun doing it and always enjoyed harassing our teachers to the fullest extent possible. To the Court: Andy, CFM, Leon, Nate, Alex, Weston, Chaz, Jack, Bill, Ottie Gene, and Mikey. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve with you all. I know at the end of the day we did what was right. As hard as it got sometimes we prevailed. Weston, Chaz, Jack, Bill, Ottie Gene, and Mikey...always remember, Keep the Faith and always fight the good fight. To the rats: I hope that we have given y'all some sort of guidance when it comes to this place. Whether it is by what we have said or by our actions. We're gone now so do great things and continue our legacy.

DYKE 2006: Clark Moncure
RAT 2012: Kevin Webb

Dayton D. Blume

Overland Park, Kansas
Biology
Air Force

Golf Team

I would like to thank my parents and my sister for their support through my time here at school. I would like to thank the Air Force department and the taxpayers for the tuition assistance that you have given me over the years. Also thanks to my parents for the extra financial support.

To my roommates and friends, those that are still here and those that have left; you are the greatest friends a guy could ask for. To the faculty members and professors who helped me through and forced me to learn; Peppy, who taught me about the outdoors; and the Constants who helped me to hide my car for two years.

To my rats, Kendzia and Betts, relax. This place will destroy you if you take it too seriously. Look out for your co-dykes, and they will look out for you. Stick with it, work hard, and party hard, but keep yourself out of trouble.

DKYE 2006: Michael R. Hiltner
Rat 2012: Thomas Kendzia

Daniel A. Bogert

"DTD"
Tempe, Arizona
Economics and Business
Air Force

Swim Team Captain, S-7 staff, CCS

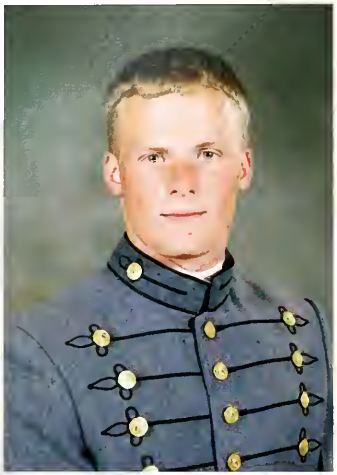
My time here at VMI has been a pain yet worthwhile challenge. I have greatly enjoyed my time with the Swim Team and with my close friends.

Dyke 2006: Ryan H. Rogers
Rat 2012: Walt Whitaker

Kevin T. Booth

Chesapeake, Virginia
Psychology
Air Force

DYKE 2006: Chase Buchanan
RAT 2012: Stephen Magee



Matthew A. Bradley

Mechanicsville, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Air Force

James B. Bradshaw Jr.

Clemmons, North Carolina
Civil Engineering
Air Force

Jacob Brannen
"The Happy Hulk"
Roanoke, Virginia
Biology
Air Force

Bodybuilding Club

It is hard to know what to write in retrospect of a school that I'm proud to have gone too, but hated much of the time I was here. I've enjoyed getting to know many of my BRs, without them, VMI would have been that much more miserable. The "academic rat-line" was much more enjoyable watching all 180 or so X Files with Sara. Id have been much lonelier in immunology without Holly, the only other student in the class. Without Daniel, I wouldn't have had anyone to laugh at every day to pass the time. Looking back, I'm not sure my time at VMI could be considered the best years of my life, but they aren't the worst, either

To My Rats: You've both done great so far and not having to answer many specials with you has been amazing. Its a long haul though, keep going strong. God Bless

DKYE 2006: Sean P. Moran
RAT 2012:

DKYE 2006: Christopher B. Gilliland
RAT 2012:

DYKE 2006: Aaron Hawkins
RAT 2012: Jake Hooker, Brad Parker

Kyle D. Braun

Midlothian, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Air Force

Daniel C. Brewer
"Danny Brew-Brew"
Hampton, Virginia
History
Army

Cross Country, Marathon Club, Lacrosse Club, Big Brother/Big Sister, Character Counts

I could not have chosen a better place to spend the past four years of my life. I was lucky to have started with three great roommates; Reza, Ian, and Doug. And even though we lost Reza as a roommate third class year, karma came back full swing. So, he remained an honorary roommate who assisted in comedy hour almost every night. As for Ian and Doug, it's been great sharing a ridiculously small room with you for four years. I've enjoyed laughing at everything, no matter how inappropriate, personal, or too soon it may have been. Ian, I'm going to miss having you as my personal trainer, I have no idea who will make up my workout schedule now. But I want to wish you luck in whatever you decide to do after graduation; and if you decide to join the Army, I'm sure I could find you a place in the Chemical Corps. Doug, you're a smart guy and you've worked hard to get to where you are right now. You've stuck by your beliefs and I admire that; although, not as much as your well disguised sarcasm, I think that is definitely something to be admired. You're going to make one heck of a Naval Officer. Kip, you've been my roommate for the past three years, and if it was not for you I would not know how to abbreviate so many words. I now know if it is D.J. weather and I can P the K like a pro. Good luck in the Air Force; let me know how it is in Alaska. And to Jed who was never my roommate… you were my co-dyke, my neighbor, and a friend who could take a heck of a hit. I'm glad we studied abroad in Hungary, lil travel with you anywhere and I will always have your back. I owe you one… I will probably just buy you a shot tomorrow and we'll call it even. To the rest of the guys, I'm sure our paths will cross again soon. And if not, I'll see you back here at the T for a reunion weekend. And finally, to my Rats… stay focused, keep up your grades, learn how to tell a story, don't stop running and don't get fat, say no to drugs, don't be emo, and be sure to graduate.

Jacqueline M. Briski
"Jack Attack", "Broski"
Hamilton, Ohio
Modern Languages and Cultures
Army

First Class Privates Association, Cadet Equity Association president, NCMT Cadre, Hollywood Hotel, Bloodthirsty Band Co., Cadet Chaplain, URL, Chief Cymbal Monkey

VMI is an interesting beast. It strips you down and exposes your character, to the very core of your being. First by humiliating and oppressing you as a rat, and then by giving you inordinate amounts of power over other human beings as an upperclassman without ever actually teach you how to use that power. Stay true to yourself. All too often this process brings out the worst in people. Most of the time, VMI defies description. In many ways it's a self-contradiction. And thus our feelings toward it are torn. I absolutely hate VMI for what it is, but I love it for what it should be. Strive to maintain this perspective. Do something small each day to bring it closer to what it can (and should) be. Learn to appreciate your cynicism. Cynicism keeps us alive, but if left unchecked, it can be the death of our potential. As long as we're cynical, it means we're willing to try to improve things. But it's easy to allow our cynicism to overcome us, and turn into bitterness. That's a miserable existence. Harness your cynicism and use it to your advantage. It's a long, hard, and often bitterly lonely battle to remember who you are in the Groupthink Capital of the World. But it is so worth the fight. Honor is so much more than simply choosing not to lie, cheat, steal or tolerate. True Honor is about doing the right thing, no matter the cost. It's about standing up for what's right, even (especially) when everyone around you is content to keep right on sitting. There's always a price to be paid. True Honor and integrity means a willingness to pay that price for the sake of the simple, quiet knowledge – that inner peace – of knowing that you did what was right. "The individual has always had to struggle to keep from being overwhelmed by the tribe. If you try it, you will be lonely often, and sometimes frightened. But no price is too high to pay for the privilege of owning yourself." Friedrich Nietzsche Bridget Conley, you are my contribution to Vision 2039. First Class Privates run the Corps!

DKYE 2006: Marc L. Antonelli
RAT 2012:

DYKE 2006: Brenton L. Underwood
RAT 2012: Raymond Delgado

DYKE 2006: Heather M. Miras
RAT 2012: Bridget Conley

John E. Brister

"McFly"
Steeles Tavern, Virginia
Modern Languages and Cultures
Army

VMI Rugby

"What a long, strange trip its been"

Christopher E. Brown

"Brownie", "Rat Brown"
Norfolk, Virginia
Psychology
Army

Rat Challenge 2 3 4, Recycling Club 3 4, Big Brother/Big Sister

I've been told that Virginia Tech will graduate more students this year than VMI has graduated since it was founded. I've also been told that VMI is what you make of it. When I was a 2nd classmen at Ring Figure, I thought that I knew every member of my class. I sat down and looked through the yearbook and realized that there were still about 15 people that I did not recognize and whose name I did not know. I immediately made a point of finding out who they were, because I was determined to know every one of my BRs before I walked across the stage at graduation. I believe that I have accomplished this goal. I would like to think that this is one of the ways that I have made my diploma worth more than a diploma from any other school. Four years after matriculation, as I prepare to commission as a Field Artillery officer in the United States Army, I still have people ask me whether I ever think about what it would have been like to go to college somewhere else. I always answer them the same way—"I have no regrets at all." Barracks has become my home, and I have no problem accepting this. I look forward to heading out into the world and starting a career for myself, and I feel comfortable knowing that the alumni that have graduated before me are all out there willing to help me because I have experienced what they experienced and I wear the ring that they wear so proudly. To my family: Thank you for supporting me in all that I have ever done. I could not have made it at this place without your confidence in me. To my Rats: Get involved, don't sit back and miss all the chances that you will have to make life-long friends and memories. To my Brother Rats, thank you for helping me to build a solid foundation for my life that will last me until I die. Thank you for sharing in the experiences that can be found nowhere else in the world. Good luck to all of you in all that you do.

Jonathan Casey Brown

"Caseymunster, Caseman", "Ace of Case"
Coronado, California
Biology
Navy

Undergraduate Research, Racquetball Club, Marathon Club, Tri Beta Society

Someone asked me the other day what I thought was the best lesson VMI taught me while attending as a cadet. VMI taught me that VMI doesn't change a person. The place known as the Institute doesn't instill any kinds of characteristics which some people would deem as qualities of moral fiber. Instead VMI is a setting for the development of strong relationships in a brotherhood passed down since 1839. When I decided to attend VMI, my parents were ecstatic. Here was a place that was going to instill some manners and encouraged hard work in academics! I would be in an environment where I would be forced to work hard all the time. Therefore I would learn lessons in studying hard and managing time. Did VMI do those things for me during these four years? I don't think it did. Experiencing the VMI environment did not help me in any way other than wishing I could find asylum somewhere during the weekends. But I would have to say it is the people I have come to know and love who have catalyzed a transformation of my character. It is through my friends that I've become happier with myself in what I do. Becoming close to academic faculty and alumni at this school has encouraged me to study harder, to Living here in close proximity to several hundred brother rats changes you. It is the people who teach you lessons about yourself and life in the world. They prepare you for the great adventure beyond graduation. My only regret is that I don't think I spent enough time with you, brother rats. I wish for the best for all of you. I walk away with no regrets or qualms. We are all equals...comrades...strongest of friends...brother rats.

DKYE 2006: Christopher L. Eaton
RAT 2012: Art Loefstedt

DYKE 2006: Richard P. Meredith Jr.
RAT 2012: Benjamin Denton, Matthew Elliott

DYKE 2006: Scott M. Buhman
RAT 2012: Quinn Adams, Nick Gelles

Alexander C. Brush

Charleston, South Carolina
International Studies
Navy

NCAA Swimming Team; NCAA Swimming Captain; S5 Regimental Lieutenant and Open House CIC ; Pre-Law Society; VMI Cadet Tutor for French and Chemistry; Institute Honors Program and Institute Scholar; Study Abroad in Aix-en-Provence, France; NROTC Scholarship; Pi Delta Phi (French Honors Society); Phi Sigma Iota (International Foreign Language Honors Society)

Although at times VMI has frustrated me beyond belief, certain parts of this stuffy old school almost seem endearing. I've seen both positive and negative styles of leadership and hope I can exude the former and avoid degenerating into the latter. I consider myself very fortunate to have competed on the NCAA Swimming Team, to have participated in the Honors Program, and to have had such wonderful faculty mentorship. I suppose I owe a good deal of my success to a few people; so thank you Mom, Dad, Su, Kevin, BG Farrell, Liz, and especially my dear grandmother, Mimi…without your wonderful home to escape to, I don't know what I would have done. As far as the social aspect, I've got to say I've made some really good friends. Austin(will never forget the epic NBA battles), Bridger (Bridge-Unit), Mike(yut), Steve, Stephen, Dan, Dan, and Trevor, thanks so much for putting up with my somewhat peculiar sense of humor and occasionally cynical attitude. To Coach and the guys on the team, thanks for taking in a mediocre swimmer and making him feel welcome; I've had a blast these past two and a half years. To Matt and Mitch, I wish you the best of luck. Only advice I can give you guys is to keep your head down and stay motivated to meet your goals, whatever they might be. Anyway, that's about all I've got…off I go on the exciting adventure that is the US Navy. Wish me luck.

Joshua C. Byerly

"JB"; "Skirt", "B-cubed"
Powhatan, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Navy

Cadet Investment Group 2, 1; Body Building Club 3, 2; VGU 2, 1; S-4 3, 2, 1

First, I owe my family for supporting me and helping me stay focused through my time at VMI. I am convinced words do not exist that are capable of expressing my appreciation and love I have for you all. If it wasn't for you, I would not be where I am today. There were unquestionably times throughout my cadetship that tested me and seemed as if there wasn't an end. My attitude towards the Institute varied by the day. However, after these four years I began to appreciate and value this place more than ever. I want to thank all my roommates; we definitely went through some crazy times. You guys were great. To the CE guys- it was definitely an adventure, all those long nights in the NEB lab, some of those ridiculous classes; but we did it! To my rat- James- I hope I have set a good example for you. You are well on your way toward graduation, keep your head held high and stay focused. These next three years will be over before you know it; take advantage of all the opportunities here! To my dyke- Dan- Thank you for all you did for me, you were a huge part of my success and thank you for starting me off on the right path at VMI. The VGU guys, all the endless hours at the round table, along with the other endeavors; it has been great- need I say more. As I leave the Institute I suspect I will not miss the PT's, confinement, and some of those bones I couldn't comprehend. However, I will miss you guys and the time we've spent. God Bless VMI and the Class of 2009.

Michael D. Cadice

North Bend, Washington
International Studies
Marine Corps

Rat Challenge CIC; New Cadet Military Training CIC

"The Emperor will not judge you by your medals and diplomas, but by your scars."

Take advantage of the gifts God has given you; build your foundation upon faith and honor to improve upon the life laid before you. Leave a legacy for your children through selfless service – so that they may improve upon the efforts of your life.

God's speed Brother Rats!!!

DKYE 2006: Charles A. Upshaw
RAT 2012: Matt Dale, Mitch Robbins

DYKE 2006: Daniel R. Petronzio
RAT 2012: James Rivas

DYKE 2006: Daniel R. Petronzio
RAT 2012: Chad Sussman, Joe Johnson

Nicholas M. Campbell III

"Nicky C"
Chicago, Illinois
International Studies
Army

Officers of the Guard Association (President)

I came to VMI knowing virtually nothing, and I'm leaving in a relatively similar state. What I do know is VMI is horrible, but I wouldn't rather have graduated from any other place in the world. My time here went by fast, and I wouldn't trade a second of it for anything. To my family, I can literally contribute all of my success to you. Your never ending support helped me more than you can ever know. Without you, I honestly would not have made it. To my rat, the man they call Mr. Mosely, you're a good dude. Keep working hard, and you'll have no problem getting through this place. And last, but definitely not least, to my guys in Delta, it's been rough, but we made it. I love you guys.

DKYE 2006: John A. Plachta
RAT 2012: Dion Mosely

Mario D. Capuozzo

Bartlett, Tennessee
Electrical Engineering
Air Force

To Josh, John, and Dan: Thanks for everything.

DYKE 2006: Benjamin A. Chovanec
RAT 2012: Curtis Rathbone, Fred DeRos

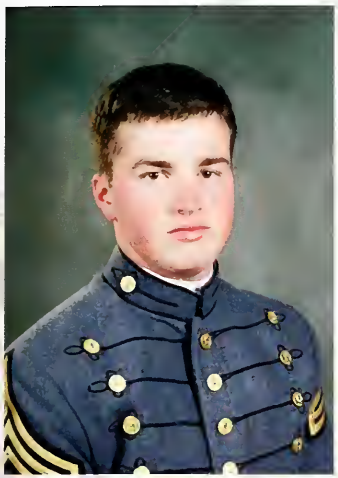
William R. Y. Carlton Jr.

"Skills"
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Biology
Air Force

VMI Lacrosse, 07-08 CCS

But at my back I always hear Time's winged chariot hurrying near; And yonder all before us lie Deserts of vast eternity - Andrew Marvell

DYKE 2006: David J. Trimble
RAT 2012: Colin Bosse, Stephen Robarge



Bryce A. Carter

Richmond, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Army

Cadre, Trap and Skeet Team 2, 1,CWRT 4,3,2,1, Little John Crew 1, Blood Drive Committee 3, 2, 1(C1C), V.G.U. 2, 1

Always be the gentleman from Virginia. Be sincere, original, and a man of character. If you continue to persist you will always accomplish your goal and if you are true to yourself you will never fail. In the words of Robert Frost, "Freedom lies in being bold."

Many thanks to my parents for their continued support in everything that I do, and also to all of the friends that have helped me along the journey.

Ryan J. Clark

"Thor"
Buena Vista, Virginia
Economics and Business
Army

VMI Golf Team C1C 2008-2009

Wow, where do I even start? It's kind of hard to sum up this place in just 500 words. We had one of the best rooms rat year. Chavis, D-Wood, Nips, and D-pantz, you guys made the ratline something hilarious to go through. Never any problems or issues between us or anyone had any issues with us. That says something here at VMI. Third class year through first class year was great. I can't go through all the stories since there are so many to pick from. Robbie, forget about the lag and P90 noobs. Rick, I'm glad you finally found the release you were looking for. Dan, always the comic relief coming back from a night of a bit too much "liquid courage." I'm sure we'll be in touch over the years. And last but not least – the rats of room 115: I hope we taught you what life at VMI is really like, beyond the smoke and mirrors. Take what we told you to heart, and you'll be just fine.

Christopher L. Cole

"Sweaty"
Richmond, Virginia
History
Air Force

Power Lifting, Body Building, Officers Christian Fellowship, Baptist Student Union, English Society

When we arrived on matriculation day we were told there are four benchmarks in our cadetship: The Ratline, Breakout, Ring Figure and Graduation. The memories of our rat-line, from DRC to Rat Riots, straining through barracks together and struggling to come together as a class will remain with me for the rest of my life. I will never forget walking back up to barracks and entering that arch after the breakout dinner and the exultation I felt at our first old yell for the class of 2009. I will always cherish the memories of the class dinner and Ring Figure Ball. And now as we move to take our last step, to receive the diploma we have gone through so much for, I look back on those memories and know that nothing I ever do will come close to matching my time with my brother rats, my dyke, my roommates, and my rats. So to you all I say thank you, for those memories will be the ones which get me through the hard times and those bonds are the ones I know I can count on for the rest of my life. God Speed Brother Rats.

DKYE 2006: Lewis S. Bartholomew
RAT 2012: Stephen Davis

DYKE 2006: Tyler W. Monger
RAT 2012: Garrett Slagle

Dyke 2006: Charles L. Lindsey
RAT 2012: Glen Ingham and John Raphael

Jacob S. Collie

Winchester, Virginia
Chemistry
Air Force

Commander's Jazz Band (4,3); Timmons-Gentry Music Society (2,1); Glee Club Pianist (3) ; ACS (4,3,2,1); Phi Kappa Phi; Gamma Sigma Epsilon

Its hard to believe my time at the Institute has come to an end. Although a semester never went by that I thought about leaving, I am glad I decided to stick it out. However, I must give credit to where credit is due. Mom and Dad, thank you for all the talks when things got overwhelming. If it wasn't for the support of my family and BR's, I'm not sure I would have made it through this place. Grant, thanks for putting up with me for all these years! To the rats, I wish you the best of luck throughout your time at VMI, keep up the good work! Alex and Joel, it's been a fun semester. To all my other BR's, you guys are great and have made the past four years quite an experience...We've finally made it!

DKYE 2006: Thomas C. Moncure
RAT 2012: Sean Dudek

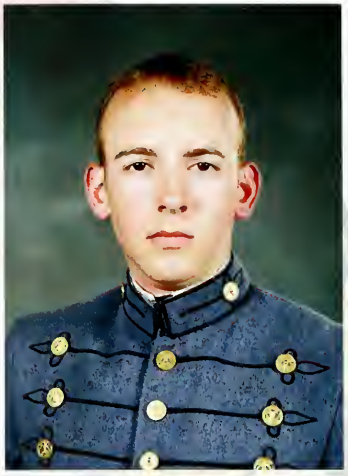
John C. Collier

"Pigpen"
Centreville, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Army

4 Year Letter winner in lacrosse, Ring Figure Chairman, 1st corporal, 1st Sergeant, 2nd Bat XO, VGU 2-1, Virginia Historical Society 3-2-1, The House 4-3-2-1

"After four years at an all male prep school knowing about as many girls as he can count on one hand, John Collier walked into our lives and forever changed them. John... I would never step foot in any building that you designed or drive across any bridge that you built but I sure would follow you into battle. Stay loyal, stay honest, and most of all stay John Collier." -JB Bradshaw "I have spent four years with John and it has been a real trip. My opinion of him has changed a lot since the day I was on my hands and knees cleaning shoe dressing off our rat floor. And if you ever would like to find us at the party just look for the beer pong table that's where we will be." -Rich Gammon "If I could sum you up in one word, it would be generous by far. The best memory I have of you was how hard you worked for our ring figure. Not only did you have engineering to deal with, but Lacrosse, Army and VMI. You sacrificed your whole semester for the well being and happiness of us, the class 2009. " -Jamie Fernandez "John we have been brothers since the first grade and that will never change. We have been there for each other in the lowest and highest points of our lives. Work hard, stay true, and the sky is the limit..." - Matthew Gift

DYKE 2006: Todd M. Baldwin
RAT 2012: Jimmy Luckino, Kyle Hofstetter



Nicholas A. Cooper

Naples, Florida
History
Air Force

Rat Challenge

My dad told me one time when I was a rat, "don't worry Nick, 4 years will go by fast and before you know it you'll be graduating and it will only seem like a bad dream." This has been one of the truest statements I've ever heard. But it wasn't all bad. I've made some of the best friends I'll ever know as well as had some great times, England, Jed's house, Busch Gardens, Ian eating a whole calzone, etc. I want to thank my Mom and Dad, the Gammons, who have been like a second family to me, and all my broskis. I couldn't have done it without any of you. 4 years...don't they go by in a blink?

DYKE 2006: Steven S. Souchtchenko
RAT 2012: Roberts, Copenhaver

Christian Cortes

"C - Tez"

Kennesaw, Georgia
History
Marine Corps

Rat Challenge, VMI Theater, Little John Crew

I suppose here is where I'm supposed to say that despite the hard times, in the end I loved it and I wouldn't trade my "VMI experience" for anything, and I can't wait to be a pretentious alumnus drinking single-malt scotch at reunions while wearing a tacky red-white-and-yellow tie, boat shoes, North Face jacket and talking about the "Old Corps". But the truth is I hate this place with every fiber of my being, and I will most likely never return. I've marched hundreds of PTs, saluted a man who fought for slavery every time I walked past his statue for an entire semester, served almost every penalty in the book, and have enjoyed the honor of being on both the dean's list AND academic probation. VMI did teach me a few things: I learned the definition of bad leadership, that most people are hypocrites, that ambition and material wealth do not equal happiness, and that eventually most people get what they deserve. That being said, I am thankful to God and to my loyal friends for being the only reasons I made it. To my Rats: don't snitch, don't be a tool, chill out, and every once in a while walk slower and enjoy the scenery. Remember the real world is waiting at the end of the tunnel. Don't take life too seriously…remember no one gets out alive. To The Council: gentlemen, you truly are my brothers. VMI made me a bitter, cynical man, but somehow you put up with me and helped me through the worst times of my life. I'll never forget the good times: the breakfast club, Uncle Tom's Cabin, Towel Party summer '08, trips to JMU and Hollins, "tell now pub later", shenanigans, and getting shady drunk in random locales throughout Lexington. I have matured a lot over these four years, for better or worse. Thank God it's over; now it's time to pick up the pieces of my life. I'm never looking back. And I'm never wearing boat shoes.

Ian R. Costello

Virginia Beach, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Navy

VMI Rugby, VMI Pipe Band

We find ourselves at the end of a long road, a turning point. No longer will we be cadets of the Virginia Military Institute; we will be graduates. We will never again form up for BRC or be boned for haydown. We will go out into the world to pursue our various careers. My friends, I have never known a group of people like you before and I fear that I'll never have friends like you again. Our ring bears the inscription "Nec Aspera Tenant" (No hardship shall deter us). This was always true as long as we endured our hardships together. To my family, I cannot thank you enough for all of your support throughout my cadetship. You always encouraged me through whatever I was attempting. Dad, your guidance has helped me to become the "keydet" I am today. Mom, your steadfast support and many care packages have always helped me through. Tim, whether or not you decide that VMI is for you, I wish you the best in your college career. To my roommates, I love you guys; thanks for everything. Most importantly, to my class, stay in touch, come to reunions, remember the good times, and celebrate with me come May 16th.

Andrew P. Craig

"Space Marine"

Chelsea, Alabama
Mechanical Engineering
Marine Corps

Marathon Club, Triathlon Club, Pipe Band

Many cultures have a right of passage. A point in a male's life where he is no longer a boy, he is a man. In American culture there really is no point where a man could look back and say that made me a man. VMI was my agoge. Like the ancient Spartans who were thrown into a harsh, rigorous boot camp to be forged into battle hardened soldiers. VMI has hardened me into a leader. VMI has been my trial by fire. I have not escaped without scars, but I have come out a man.

DKYE 2006: Christopher L. Pridgen
RAT 2012: Santiago Muñoz-Otalvaro

DYKE 2006: Joseph P. Davidoski
RAT 2012: Daniel Greenlee, Bobby Gragg

DYKE 2006: Bradley D. Steidle
RAT 2012: Nate Aglin and Scott Jones

London C. Crounse

Long Island, New York
International Studies
Army

Pre-Law Society President, Cadre Instructor, Academic Mentor, Bodybuilding

Here's to my family, who sacrificed so much for me and gave me the opportunity to succeed. Dad, you are the toughest man I know. You have always fought for everything you believed in, and you have always believed in me. Thank you for all of the tough love, it may not have been what I wanted, but it was certainly what I needed. Keila, you have been the best little sister I could ask for. Thank you for always making me laugh when all hell was breaking loose around us. Here's to all of my friends, who cared more about getting each other through than the "front side of barracks," who did what they could, when they could, to make sure we all made it. To those friends, you know who you are; these past years have been an honor and a privilege. Thanks to you, the scholastic jail that is VMI has been more of a home to me than I have ever experienced. After all of the pain, pressure, stress, and consternation we must now all stick together much the same way we have as we continue our lives. If we do this successfully, we will have more of a leg up on the world than VMI could ever give us. There is not one of us who isn't capable of doing more than they think they can do "Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." —Emerson

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing" —Burke

Lloyd R. Crouse

Alexandria, Virginia
International Studies
Marine Corps

As I'm writing this I am living in between two construction sites, there is still no hot running water in the showers, and Crozet still sucks. After four years I am reminded that this place truly does have a soul and it never fails to leave that one last kick. Mom, I know it has been extremely difficult in raising two sons. Through all of the hardships thank for always being there when I needed you the most. I love you very much and you are appreciated. Dad, I know you're up there watching over us. We had some great times. I'll never forget you and I'll always love you. I hope I have made you proud. To my dykes, what more can I say, you guys were the greatest. To my friends and roommates, I probably would have out-processed a long time ago if it wasn't for you guys. Well that and the other fact that it takes an entire day to out-process. You guys were the ones that made this place worthwhile and special. The VMI experience was nothing without you. Thank you. To all, I could not have made it through VMI without you.

May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face.
And rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Edwin J. Cruz

"Cruz Control"
Richmond, Virginia
Psychology
Air Force

Catholic Newman Club; NCAA Football

I can't believe it... already time for graduation! I feel like it was not too long ago we all strained into this place, and now here we are about to get out. It was a long four years, but I am glad it went by as fast as it did. There were two key groups helping me through these four years: My family, and my roommates. True story... I could not have made it without you all.

Para mi familia: gracias por todo lo que me han dado y encenado en la vida. Hoy soy el hombre que soy porque ustedes me han demonstrado la manera correcta en que un hombre deberia de vivir. No se tienen que preocupar por mi, sali bien y voy a estar bien en el Air Force. Los quiero mucho.

To the roomies (Dennis, Joe, José, Mark): you guys are my best friends and I could not have asked for a better group of guys to grow with and to experience this place with. Lord knows we had our rough times, but we made it through the last three years together. Thanks for all the good memories, and I can't wait to hang out again outside of this place. LOVE YOU ALL.

To my rat, Aaron, and the rest of the rats from room 161... we too had our ups and downs but I'm certain you all have a good idea of what this place is and what it's all about. Keep your heads up, and don't ever let the man bring you down. Remember "I can do all thing through Christ my Lord who strengthens me" (Phil- 4:13) and you will be fine. It was a crazy experience (one I would rather never do again), but I would say it was all worth it...and now we're done... "I can't believe it."

DKYE 2006: James F. Woodard II
RAT 2012:

DYKE 2006: Shawn L. Driver
RAT 2012:

DYKE 2006: Alexander G. Williams
RAT 2012: Dwayne Aaron Lewis

Joseph R. Cunningham

"Kung Fu Panda"
La Plata, Maryland
Psychology
Air Force

Rat Challenge 3, 2; Ultimate3, 2; VaARNG 3, 2, 1; Cadet Battery 1; First Class Private

To room 108- thanks for a crazy first class year and good times. To the Rats of 108- don't forgot about your dykes and look after each other. I hope you all survive this place like we did. We have come to a place far from home, Time long passed since we have seen the sunrise, A place where peace can finally come, A place where we can rest and laugh and sing and love once more.

Gareth E. da Cunha

"Tuna"
Corvallis, Oregon
International Studies
Navy

VMI Rugby, Men In Grey

Friends, family and BRs, thank you, it's been fun. Dad and Aubrey, thank you for everything there is a lot that I owe to you. VMI Rugby, cheers to the team, TIPS! Rats, work hard, enjoy yourselves when you can and don't judge. Remember life is too short to take seriously, trust me, take it from a guy who knows. Life is full of disappointments and triumphs appreciate them both for what they are. Finally to quote my father a few words worth knowing "good judgment comes from experience; experience comes from bad judgment."

Joshua E. Daly

Woodbridge, Virginia
International Studies
Marine Corps

Cadre, Club Soccer, Club Ultimate, Rat Challenge, German Club, Bulldog, Semper Fi Society

I describe my time at VMI as a love/hate relationship. Everyone says college is supposed to be the best years of your life, and I, like most, have wondered why I chose this instead of somewhere with more freedom and more girls. But I wouldn't trade my time at VMI for anything. And as good of a time I've had here, I had to fall on my ass and learn the hard way. So while riding some W&L frat guys' bikes through Lexington was a great time, the next semester on confinement was, well, not.

I can't believe how fast it all went. My whole life I've been closing chapters and opening new ones. The four years at VMI have been my longest time in one place. And as I close this chapter, I look forward to the next with the Marine Corps. I hope the characters in this chapter continue to appear throughout the rest of my story. I'll miss you all and the times we spent here. Ok, most of them.

DKYE 2006: Justin T. Guy
RAT 2012: Diego Ortiz

DYKE 2006: Christopher J. Authier
RAT 2012: Spencer Wackelin

DYKE 2006: Mark T. Searles
RAT 2012: Thomas Renfroe

Patrick K. deLatour

"Red"
Fairfax, Virginia
Economics and Business
Air Force

Kyle, Shawn, JB, Andrew, The Show, Brian, AJ, Clayton, Matt, Rich, John, Jamie: thank you guys and I love you all.

To my parents: couldn't have done it without you and I did it because of you.

To my brother: You're my inspiration.

Mad Cat, Eazy, Kev, Weezy, D Smith, Ruck, Bo: wish you could have made it through with me.

DKYE 2006: Seth E. Enterline
RAT 2012: Marc Ray

Laurens M. Delpech

"Pech", "Pechy", "Delp"
Vienna, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Air Force

Skeet Club

The day I set off for VMI I thought: "I'm going off to college, this is awesome... wooooo COLLEGE!"... I was wrong. 2nd semester 1st class year is pretty sweet because it's almost over, and the priviledges are nice too, oh and not being on Ac. Pro for once. A wise man once told me that I should try to sleep as much as I can. He said, "If you sleep about 12 hours a day you're only really 'here' for 2 years..." I thought it was a great idea, so most of my 3rd and 2nd class year I spent asleep. This didn't help my GPA, but hey... I'm still here and I'm almost done so it's no big deal. I really don't have much to say about VMI. All I know is I won't miss anything about the school (Pause...except for group showers), and I will definetly miss my friendsTo my roommates: I'll miss you guys... All 3 years of horribly offensive and grossly innapropriate jokes, all the pranks, all the FAILs, all the LOLS and FML moments. Even though we have experienced many FAILs, we have also had a few WINs along the way. Also, we are probably all going to hell, but that doesn't bother me too much, because I'm pretty sure that would just mean I'm back at VMI, and as long as you guys are here, it won't be that bad. I love you guys... No seriously, you don't even know. To all my friends: I have a feeling the friendships that I have formed with you guys throughout the years will last forever. You all are family to me. I love you guys too. To the system: Thanks for all the pointless demos and bones you gave me for trying to be a normal person. That is all. I can't believe I made it to the end of the road. The four years here at VMI seem like they have gone by in a flash. It's really true what they say, the days go slow but the weeks go fast. Well, sometimes they don't go by fast enough. I suppose I learned a few things along the way and VMI has changed into a better person. Here are some examples of how I've grown up: I don't laugh when someone says the word dyke anymore... well, thats about it. I guess what I take away from VMI is: a diploma and lots of crazy stories and some great memories. DUDE LOVE

DYKE 2006: Andrew C. Ihnen
RAT 2012: TJ Fischer, Richard Sharp

Patrick W. Donovan

Mechanicsville, Virginia
History
Air Force

Club Soccer, Rat Challenge

The Institute was the only college I wanted to attend. My cadetship would not have been possible without the help of others. I thank everyone who helped me get here and everyone that stood next to me these past four years. To my roommates, we had our ups and downs but we always stood by each other and I hope that never changes. To my RAT, I never had any problems with you and I know you will be successful in whatever endeavor you take in life. I dedicate all I have accomplished to my Father.

"Failure Is Not An Option."

-Gene Kranz

DYKE 2006: Brandon R. Rocker
RAT 2012: James G. Poettker

Alexander I. Doseff

"Dodey"
Lovettsville, Virginia
International Studies and German
Marine Corps

VMI Rugby Club, Pipe Band, RDC

Like everyone else here I have a lot of people to thank, too many to list name by name. To my family: thanks for all your support, you helped me get through here more than you know. To all my friends here, you know who you are, thanks for all the good times and support. I could never have done this without you, in fact I'd have never come back after Rat year if it hadn't been for all of you. To the Realm and TCM, we had some really good times, I'll never forget them.

The rugby team was really my only release here and I want to thank all my teammates and coaches who helped me get through. You guys were some of the best friends that anyone could ask for and I doubt I'll ever find a club who I enjoyed playing for as much as I did VMI Rugby.

To my rats: don't take yourself or VMI too seriously, do your best to never let your friends down and always find a way to have some fun, even at this place.

I've made some incredible friends here at VMI, sometimes I think that's the only good thing that I'll come away from this place with. I've had a healthy dislike for VMI, for much of my cadetship. I've hated the way that all that seemed to matter was the appearance of VMI to the outside world; as someone who can write better than I said, "Look at the front side of barracks". However, as my time here comes to a close, I wonder if that isn't the point. I doubt I would have grown as close to my friends here if the situation had been any different. Though I don't think that I'll ever say "I love VMI" or even agree with much of what it does, but I do appreciate what it's given me and in a sick way, I'll miss it.

DKYE 2006: Joseph K. Zyra
RAT 2012: Jae-Min Kim, Ryan Schade

David C. Downing

"Uncle Dave"
Roanoke, Virginia
Psychology
Army

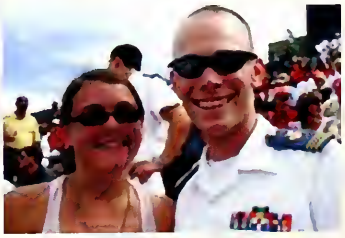
Echo CEA Rep, Cadet Battery, Psychology Club, and Newman Club

To my family: Thank you for your support. If it wasn't for your motivation, I would have never made it this far. Unfortunately, I'll be spending another year here at Mother I without my brother rats due to my deployment to Kosovo from 2006-2007 but, I'll never quit. Thank you for instilling your values and determination in me.

To current cadets: Don't make the same mistake I made. It's much better to graduate on time and serve as an officer instead of putting your life and cadetship on hold. There are much more important things in life right now like graduating from college, commissioning, getting married, and starting a family.

To my rats: Stick with it. I'm proud of you. There will be times when this place will get you down and you will wonder what you've gotten yourself into but trust me, it's worth it.

DYKE 2006: Ian P. Camper
RAT 2012: Justin Dwight and Jon Failinger



Dennis M. Dunaway Jr.

"Double D", "Big D"
Goochland, Virginia
Economics and Business
Army

Football, room 161 Basketball

There were these two mice, they were stuck in a bucket of creme. One gave up quickly, and drowned, however the other swam and swam until he had churned the creme into butter then he climbed out.

DYKE 2006: Todd M. Baldwin
RAT 2012: Andrew Self

Thomas A. Duncan

"TDunc(s)", "Dunciano"
Dallas, Texas
History
Army

Marathon Club, Ranger Challenge, Alpha 8th Corporal/Co. Clerk, Big Brother/Big Sister, Pre-Law Society, English Society, Club Golf, Alpha Company OGA Rep., MAC Cadet Assistant, Alpha

Though these four years have not passed quickly, and have times been like pulling teeth, it has been an experience that I will not soon forget. There have been times that were fantastic and times where I was miserable, but the experience will endure thanks to many. The FAM-While I know that you may have preferred a different path for me, thank you for sticking with me and allowing me to realize what I wanted to do and succeed. Roommates (Krummbly, Mike, Trent, Jedski, Adam, Fat J and Ford) I could not have wished for a better group of guys to live with, and I will attempt to learn the things that living with you taught me (like getting out of bags). Broskies-There have been too many ridiculous times to remember, and I appreciate it. You guys always made me feel welcome everywhere we went, and were kind enough to accommodate me almost indefinitely. I only hope I can go to Busch Gardens with guys as cool as ya'll sometime in the future. Stone-There were good times and bad times, and your help got me from good to good. Don't underestimate the effects you have had on my four years. Geoff and Curt-Your ridiculousness shaped me, I only hope that my legacy will bring more honor to the line. Texas Fight. Bruceski and Drewski-Don't let the man (i.e. VMI) get you down, just keep looking forward to Ring Figure and Graduation, and you'll get there sooner than you know. It has been great to watch you two develop, and thanks for folding the laundry. And get you some AC days. RCT-Thanks for everything, academic and otherwise. Everyone else-I may have not spelled you out directly but there have been countless other people that have made this place livable, and it is much appreciated.

It was difficult but we all survived, I only hope I have helped others in the same way so many have helped me. Stay classy.

Matthew B. Edwards

"Mattie", "Hoss"
Midlothian, Virginia
History
Army

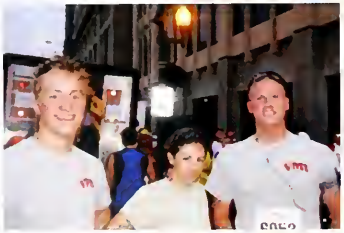
2nd Battalion S2 Lieutenant Senior year, 4 year VMI Baseball team member

What a crazy road. Like most, I never saw myself going to a school anything like VMI. Now I am here, attempting to describe these past four years of my life, which still amaze me to this day. came to VMI expecting an academic challenge and that is exactly what I encountered. To my fellow Civil and Environmental engineering majors: you guys are awesome. We have worked long and hard these past four years and it has finally paid off. And now comes the reason I made it through VMI. Baseball has been a main driving force throughout my life. I came to VMI mainly to play baseball. Our senior class will leave VMI as the most successful class in school history, but my memories of VMI baseball will have nothing to do about winning. I will remember being around an awesome group of guys and all the fun we had reaching a common goal. I would not be here today if it were not for my fellow senior classmates who have stuck it out with me during this rigorous VMI experience. Hendu, Smink, Phelpsie, A.J., Brian, you guys are great friends and it has been great getting to know you guys and hanging out throughout the past four years. Now I sit here at my desk, thinking of what will come to mind as I look back over the past four years. I will remember all the road trips for baseball and all of those seemingly impossible classes that I somehow managed to succeed in. I will remember getting demerits for seemingly no reason, starting friendships, and walking up and down the hill to practice. I will remember the support of my family and friends to help push me through VMI. I will remember my roommate since rat year Lloyd Crouse and all the fun times we had in the room. So now the VMI saga ends. Looking back, the four years went by like a flash. Now it is time to go out into the real world and make some noise...

Travis A. Edwards

Williamsburg, Virginia
English
Navy

DYKE 2006: Geoffrey T. Parker
RAT 2012: Andrew Luna, Bruce Howard



DYKE 2006: Daniel R. Wilmoth
RAT 2012: Jeremy Brown, Colin Flaherty

DYKE 2006: William J. Keller II
RAT 2012:

Reza Eftekhar

Alexandria, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Air Force

My time at VMI has been a rollercoaster. Many events have accord and I have learned many things from different situation and different people. Overall, I am glad that I have been introduced to many great individuals from all walks of life. However, people who have affected me the most have to be my RAT roommates and my first class year roommates. We have had lots of fun together. I have to say they are all great individuals that will become very successful someday soon. To my RATs, I say thanks for all that you have done for me, and putting up with a lot. And to my Dykes, I wanted to also thank them especially because without them I would not be where I am now. This place has taught me many things, and one important thing would be that, I will never want to go through this place again.

DKYE 2006: Peter R. Wilcox
RAT 2012:

Patrick O. Eggleston

"Egg"
Nokesville, Virginia
Psychology
Army

Marathon

How did I get in here and not Radford?

DYKE 2006: Shawn G. Hogan
RAT 2012: Aaron Bradley & Dallas Wiggins

Kyle M. Elgert

"Cubby"
Glen Allen, Virginia
Chemistry
Air Force

Wrestling

College..... I am starting to think I should have just moved out to LA and tried to become an actor or something instead. I can't wait to catch up on all the things that I have missed over the last four years, and I hope that it doesn't go by as fast as it did these past couple of years. I want to thank my family and friends for all the support you have giving me throughout my life. My parents for always pushing me to pursue my goals and giving me the opportunity to attend college; my brother Billy, for beating up on me when you should have and giving me a good example to look up to; and my friends for keeping me honest and true to myself.

Mom and Dad the investment that you have put in me will not be a bad one. Through your guidance and support you have shaped Billy and I to become the men we are today more than anything else. You never hesitate to drive a couple of hours just to spend the day with your boys, and you should be very proud of the hard work that you have put into us because we are very appreciative of the sacrifices you have made over the years.

Evan, Jake, and Jess; good luck with whatever life has in store for you guys. I am positive that you all will find what you are looking for soon, and that success will certainly follow. Evan, keep your eyes on the horizon don't be afraid to stretch your wings and fly; Jess, try not to over step your boundaries and use what you know to get you through life; and Jake this world is not big enough to let a West Virginia boy get lost. Good Luck and Godspeed, everyone!

DYKE 2006: Bradley B. Bascope
RAT 2012: Chris Carr

Frank L. Ellis

Reva, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Navy

Matthew J. Englehart

"Angry"
Chambersburg, Pennsylvania
Mechanical Engineering
Navy

Rugby

I lasted the whole 4 years here, which is what I intended to do. I've learned a lot, but am going to try to forget most of it. The most meaningful bit of advice I ever got was from my dyke after Breakout when he wrote on my sandbag: "Sorry I wasn't a better dyke. It only gets harder from here. —Matt" If there is one bit of advice I want to pass on to my rat it would be that. I have my close Brother Rats, and that is the most important thing I'll be taking away from here. Everybody else, I'll see you in the future wherever our paths cross.

-If you sleep for 12 hours a day, you are only here half the time!

Taylor L. Farley

"Fish"
Richmond, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Navy

Trap and Skeet Team, Powerlifting Team (CIC), Glee Club

After attending St. Christopher's School in Richmond, Virginia for thirteen years, the last thing I wanted to do was enter another 4 years of yet another place strong in its social and ethical structure like VMI, but for some strange reason, I felt it was what I needed to do. Well, after four years, I can't say I do not regret going to your typical college and enjoying most of my days there; however, I can truly say that I would make the same choice were I to go back in time. The people whom I have surrounded myself with are unforgettable and the relationships which I have built are here to stay, for better or for worse. While here at VMI my list of accomplishments has grown tremendously and the good times had will never be forgotten, whether they be hanging out in my 10 square foot room or while here over the summer. These times have blown my mind, and have enabled me to see the small subtleties of life that are vital to retaining some sense of sanity. Where I will go from here is still a mystery but I am sure that I can handle anything now and nothing will stand in my way to doing what I want to do with my life.

DYKE 2006: Jochen A. Granja
RAT 2012:

DYKE 2006: Matthew J. Oliver
RAT 2012: Michael Rementer

DYKE 2006: Michael D. Lloyd
Rat 2012: T. D. Hoover

Benjamin W. Felts

Max Meadows, Virginia
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Army

Boxing, IEEE

I just want to first off thank my father and my family for supporting me through these last five years. I also want to thank my roommates, boys its been a great four years, I am truly going to miss you guys. I want to thank all my other friends here at VMI, there are quite a few people who have been a big part of my life here at VMI, and without you guys, I wouldn't had made it through this place. I just want to say good luck to all my rats, keep your heads on straight and your chins up, you can make it through this place.

DYKE 2006: David A. Bruster Jr.
RAT 2012: Bob Flaherty, Michael B. McCollough

David A. Ferreira

Slatington, Pennsylvania
Psychology
Army

DYKE 2006:
RAT 2012:

Jamie B. Fernandes

Chislehurst, London
Psychology
Air Force

Swimming, Boxing, Soccer

On the day of matriculation I walked into my rat room and I saw a skinny British lad standing there with a smile on his face. I have lived with him every day for the past four years at VMI, and I would not trade that time for anything in the world. Jamie you have been there for me through everything, and I truly appreciate that. We have had some good times together whether it was working out, standard time, drinking a beer or having a shot or two or three. It has been a real trip and I'll never forget it. Jamie never loose your drive for success, the sky is the limit. Take care mate and say hello to Chevy for me. - Matthew Gift I don't think 500 words could be used to sum up how much of a privilege it has been to be here in the United States. Thank you Matthew, John, Richard and Stephen for all the kind help you have given me since I first came to VMI in 2005. I want you to know that if you ever find yourself in Britain, you have a place to stay without a doubt; you have shown me a tremendous amount of support over the years. I would love to call this place my second home not because of its fun loving culture but because of you people. Now I am getting ready to graduate and its thanks to you guys!! To the Staff, Faculty and Coaches, you provide countless generations with a top class education. Thank you to the host families who have personally looked after me and who also help Cadets find their feet in Lexington. Thanks Mrs. Irby!! I love you! Thank you Cmdr. McElhannon. Thank you also Richard, Robbie, George! You have helped me so much this year. I will miss you! There are so many people I would like to thank personally but everyone who I have met in the U.S has been a truly amazing. Mum and Dad, its time for me to come home. Dad, you are my closest friend and the one man who paid for my tuition. Without you, the experiences, the friends and the education wouldn't have been possible. You work so hard everyday to make sure I have the best. Mum I do love you and miss you as it has been a long 4 years away from home, but it is time! Would I do it again.....? Million times over!!! xo

DYKE 2006: Kevin Aldrich
RAT 2012:

Kevin P. Finger

Virginia Beach, Virginia
History
Army

Cadet Newspaper

Mom & Dad – I'm putting this in the yearbook so you don't get mad at me

HL & Joey – Keep staying out of trouble

Nick (MBR), Mike, & Dan – Don't tell anybody what we did.

Dori – Youd better still be around to read this in ten years!

John C. Ford

Norfolk, Virginia
Psychology
Air Force

Trap and Skeet Club

To my parents and family, thank you for all the weekend trips up to Lexington, the tail gates, cookies, and packages along with all your support that keep me going during my four years in Lex-Vegas. Caroline and Sarah, the best keydet cheerleaders ever! Claudia, you became our room mascot, you put up with a lot and made every Hop a lot of fun and for that thank you. Mom and Tom you made so many trips and I cant thank you enough. Dad without you as a role model I wouldn't be who or where I am today thank you. To my sisters you are both my biggest fans and make me very proud with every thing you all do weather making smiles or making the two things that give our family the most smiles. You two are the best sisters and extra mothers I could have. Jarratt your advice to go somewere else or drink a beer is probably the wises I ever got. Bradley go and play with dead people and collect your Social security. Trent, you were always willing to show off your ranger panties and thighs especially to Claudia. Matt I never thought id see you on the Gim, way to go and always remember our first meeting and where we found your dip. Kyle you will always be the lovable fat J to me, who runs in to everything in the room, Black hearts for life. Krumm and Jue, I'm proud to know I helped to corrupt you. Carter thanks for finding my hat and getting me a new hay the hard way. Roxy, you were the best room mom a keydet could ask for and never forget 'she looked so cute yelling UP! Down!' my rat. To 122 "promiscuous girl" awaits so go do great things. To our rats I hope we helped you all along your road. To my brothers who came before me Todd '90' and Michael '91' way to make it a family tradition for me Michael, you helped me with my time here perhaps more than anyone I hope I made you proud and your late nights taking the time to drive me back and walk me to the forth stoop that first year meant so much to me thank you and sorry you got that speeding ticket on your way home.

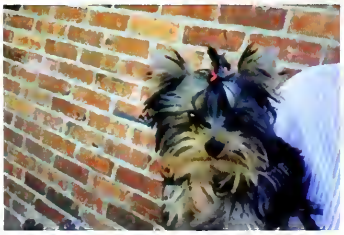
Roxanne M. Franck

"Roxy"
Poquoson, Virginia
History
Air Force

Cadre, Triathlon Club, Marathon Club, Ranger Challenge

We live in a world that sometimes lacks understanding and forgiveness. There are times when nothing seems to make sense, and times when it never will. Sometimes the most we can hope for is an inner patience… knowing that the winds of change will eventually send a fresh new breeze into our lives. Sometimes the most we can hope for is someone who understands… who touches us and tells us without need for touching or words that it will be okay, and we know that it will be because they are here for us. And sometimes we just need to remember no matter what the world sends our way, that it is so important to go after our dreams, and to reach for our goals… never forgetting that, with every smile and effort and hope, we'll get a little closer… every day. –Collin McCary Thank you Corie, Ateala, and Ava for bringing the love and laughter into the room ever since Rat year. Ateala, you are the most loyal friend someone could ever have and Julie, Bess, and Audrie are lucky to have you as their roommate next year because I've loved every year with you. Ava and Corie, I wish you courage and strength as you take on the responsibility of being Officers in the Marine Corps. I love each and every one of you. You are the best friends who understood each day spent at VMI and gave me the encouraging words when I needed them. Mitch, it is difficult to explain how thankful I am for your friendship. You are a wonderful friend who provided honesty and an incredible amount of support. I respect and cherish you for your character and your determination and I wish you the best of luck in the Marine Corps. We made a great team! Matty, Trent, Chris, Kyle, and Bradley, you boys were my second set of roommates and my family. I love each and every one of you. And remember… always follow your heart.

DYKE 2006: Gregory G. Quillen
RAT 2012: HL Temoney



DYKE 2006: Christopher M. Stolle
RAT 2012: Franklin Banegas

DYKE 2006: Amber Blain
RAT 2012: Jasmine Harriston, Christina Gontarski

Conor B. Franklin

Gainesville, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Air Force

ASME Officer

We all realize at some point how vast the world is and the never ending challenges that will face you on your journey through life. VMI has prepared me for that by putting my Brother Rats and I through struggles and challenges that most people would resist and probably fail. My cadetship has shown me that there is a way to get past anything if the right focus and determination is applied to that which is important and move towards it. We must take all things in stride, find the right path, and stay straight. Things that were once the dreams of my childhood are now reality. These dreams would not have come to be without the determination that VMI forces you to take into everything you do. We have put up with so much to be cadets here, we have suffered daily from hardships and nuisances of what is called a "Spartan lifestyle," often questioning the reason we don't just leave and be done with it. After all, this the place is where 20 minutes late to class costs you five hours of marching circles in front of barracks and weeks of enjoying the inside of post. Somehow that makes sense right? Thankfully together we continue to fight and finish the mission to graduate because we ultimately know that these struggles we overcome at VMI prepare us for the larger, more demanding world outside the walls of barracks. I thank God, my dykes Ryan, Chris and Jeff, my family, friends and Brother Rats for being the role models and support that I needed. To my rats Connor and Ed, have fun with life and remember your time here and what it has done for you! Lastly thanks for being chill Cold steel! Love you guys.

-Psalm1:1-6

Richard T. Frantz Jr.

"D-Pantz"
Kingwood, Texas
History
Air Force

Rat Challenge High Ropes, CCS

What more can I say about 4 years of boredom and suck that, ironically, turned out to be worth it in the end. Here are some shout-outs to some of my favorite Keydets and a few honorable mentions. Roommates first. Dan, Ryan, and Robbie, you guys are by far the weirdest, most random, and goofiest people I have ever encountered. From doing pull-ups on the wall lockers, to "love-on" victims, to the myriad of sounds that comes from everyones desk on any given night... well let's just say that might not ever happen again. Dan, don't over exert yourself, and be sure and keep dodging and weaving out of the way of those grenades. Ryan, two words, red Gatorade. Robbie, no that guy with the P90 was not joking you. To my rats, I think we both thought the same thing that first night on Meet Your Dyke Night... what the heli did I get myself into. It's been quite an interesting year to say the least, and while it took ya'll a little time to learn and figure things out, you got it down pretty well. Spencer, keep movin' those eyebrows man, you'll be a ladies man in no time. J-Mac... you have by far the most energy of anyone I have ever seen. Watch out for that bush near Cameron Hall, it'll get ya. Good luck to both of you in the next 3 years, It's going to be a long haul, but if you play your cards right it'll pay off big time. Last but not least, to my family. Mom and Dad, words cannot explain how appreciative I am of you both giving me this opportunity. You two have been so supportive of me throughout my life thus far, especially the past 4 years. Katie, you have helped me through endless conversations and issues with girl problems that VMI does nothing but magnify. Thanks for that clutch support among many other things. Mimi, every time I've returned home for a break, you don't miss a beat and just give me a smile and a high five. Keep on humming sis.

Alexander Friedland

Woodbridge, New Jersey
Psychology
Air Force

DYKE 2006: Ryan H. Rogers
RAT 2012: Conner Downs

DYKE 2006: Glenn B. Hammond II
RAT 2012: Spencer Fuller, Jake Macintyre

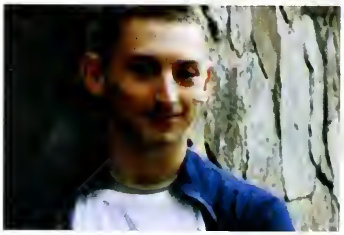
William R. Frizzell

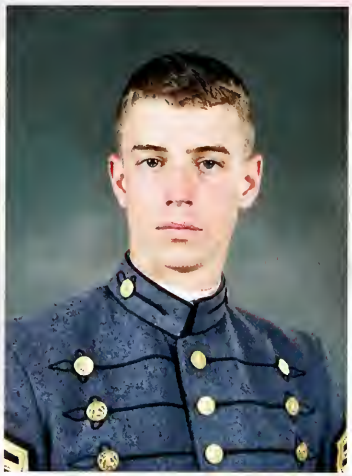
"Frizz"
Greensboro, North Carolina
History
Army

Pipe Band/ Competition Pipe Band

I would like to thank God, my family, my fiancée, my friends, dykes, and rats for supporting me throughout my VMI experience. I never would have accomplished what I have without them all constantly encouraging and helping me.

DYKE 2006: Jackson L. Todd
RAT 2012: Brandon Butler





Ira A. Gallagher

Poquoson, Virginia
English
Army

Endurance Club, life guard CIC, Cadre, Triathlon Club CIC, Marathon Club, Ski Team, Pipe band Drum Major

I came to VMI with a set of goals and a handful of priorities. One by one my goals have been withered away by an unfortunante series of events and stupid mistake, only to be replaced by friendships and unforgettable memories. The handful of priorities has changed drastically, and I have begun to realize that life goes on. These last four years have flown by, certain individuals have helped to expedite the time, and some events seem to slow it down. People have come to know me as a triathlete, an image that I owe to one of my dykes making me compete in my first race. I have had some of my most memorable moments competeing for VMI on the national level. To the Corps that remains behind us when we go: don't forget to have fun, VMI isn't life, life sucks so much more.

DYKE 2006: Kirby T. Smith III
RAT 2012: Patrick Smith, Jack Boswel

Richard B. Gammon

"Dick", "Rick", "Rich"
Richmond, Virginia
Psychology
Army

Psychology club, Virginia historical society, Ranger challenge, Rat challenge, 9th corporal, Master sergeant, Executive officer, VGU

After living with Richard Branch Gammon for four years one thing is clear, it takes a lot to fluster or upset him. Any party Rich is the first one to start and the last one to go to bed, and then he is the first up and started again in the morning. I remember our freshman roommates thought he was drowning in fun until I rolled him over the trash can. During rat boxing I remember having to box with someone for an extra credit bought. Rich let me get a few good licks in to secure my grade, and then he proceeded to whoop my butt. Branch RGizzle, I think this says it all, "You sound like you're from London." Best of luck to you my friend and thanks for being there for me when I needed your help, you are always going to be regarded as family to me! Richard Gammon might be the only person I have ever known to call everyone by their last name, besides me. Rich is just a down to earth guy that wouldn't think twice about giving his shirt off his back to you if you needed it. [To my friends] When we look at this writing down the road what memories will be brought up? Should I mention our bars or our "frat" house? Should I tell the stories of countless memories that we shared together? Well, I feel this is not needed. What I want to remember from this place I will never forget and what I don't doesn't need to be written. So, all I can say is thank you. Thank you all for helping me even when I though I could do everything on my own, which could include finishing a case (P Mac) or trying to make you laugh when you aren't yourself (John). Stephen, stay you, though its not needed to be said. You wouldn't change for yourself just to piss yourself off. Jaime, I will always back you "rude boy". Matt, I'm sure we share one thing in common, "How did we make it? For those who said we couldn't." I'm not going to say I will miss yall because you can't miss people who will always be there so remember. "Take it easy and keep it sleazy"

DYKE 2006: Steven S. Souchtchenko
RAT 2012: Matthew Brock

Joshua M. Gerardo

Yoshi
Midlothian, Virginia
Chemistry
Navy

Power lifting, RDC

I will never forget all of the experiences that make up life at VMI. From the excitement of Matriculation, the Ratline and Breakout to Ring Figure Second Class year and being a member of the RDC First Class year. I would like to thank all my Delta BR's who have given me more memories than anyone would ever care to listen to, especially my roommates, Jarrett Bennett, Ben Kyler and Daniel Stanislawski, who have kept me sane and listened to me rant and rave about just about everything for the past three years. VMI has given me friends I will never forget and who have become as close as family to me, for this I am forever grateful.

DYKE 2006: Dane C. Elles
RAT 2012: Jake Barton, Zachary Spain

Holly A. Giacolone

"gee-a-cologne", "gike-alone"
Auburn, New York
Biology
Navy

S5 Staff Regimental, CEA Representatives, Glee Club, Cadet Assistant, College Republicans VMI Track and Field, International Club, Beta Beta Beta Honor Society

I realize that my words here will far exceed my lifetime. Yet, the majority of those who will read this will be people who have known me and may benefit from my experience here. I have spent the past three years here in an undulating relationship between love and hate. Through this place I have learned to hate inefficiency, mundane and seemingly meaningless tasks, people who don't care about those they work with, and jumping through hoops to come to what seems should have been a reasonable conclusion all along. It is because of VMI that I now look for the most efficient way, find meaning in tasks, care for those that I work with, and to love my friends. At the conclusion of four years here, I can sum all of what I have learned both good and bad into one concept: VMI challenges you academically, physically, working with other people, and requires you to manage your time, if it were easier, it wouldn't produce the VMI character that we believe makes a VMI graduate a success. To my friends, from all classes, who have put a smile on my face day after day in the adversity of VMI, I will miss your ever present support. You have been a light at the end of the tunnel and it is you who have made this place worthwhile. To my roommates...my sisters: You have pulled me up the bad days and made my good days even better. You have showed me immense generosity, caring, and love, and in many ways you have been my family for these past four years. Whether you played devil's advocate to show me another perspective, shared my sentiments about growing up in the sticks, gave me a new perspective on house wives, provided unrelenting candidness, or poured over biology textbooks with me until morning... I have grown to love you and all that you have taught me. You will eternally remain some of my closest friends. Lastly, to those who have yet to complete their time here always remember "The only way out, is through."

DYKE 2006: Jamaila Barrantes
RAT 2012: Monica Bennett

Jeremy L. Gibbs

Hampton, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Air Force

Club Basketball, Glee Club, Jazz Band

DYKE 2006: Sean P. Moran
RAT 2012: Andy Ruan

Matthew L. Gift

Centreville, Virginia
Economics and Business
Air Force

Chairman -- Cadet Investment Group

I never thought I would say this but, where have the past four years gone, time has truly flown by. I have made some of the greatest friends of my life, who have been there for me through all the highs and lows VMI has to offer. I could never have done this without all the support from my mom and dad. I will consider myself lucky if I can become half the parents you are, so I thank you. Kitch you have done extremely well this year keep working hard, and as my dyke told me you will be done before you know it. To my roommates of club 142 what a trip we have had. I have truly had some of the best times of my life with you boys. I wish you boys all the success in the world and remember the sky is the limit. There is only one more thing to say: thank God I am outta here! I have had the privilege of knowing Matthew Gift since the first grade. We have had a lot of good times. Matts hard work and dedication showed every day. His journey started with people telling him he could not get into VMI, but he pursued his goal and ended up not just here, but here on the deans list and chairman of the well respected Cadet Investment Group. Everyone who knows Matt knows that he will be successful in all of his future endeavors. Matt... never lose your work ethic. - John Collier Matthew has been my roommate since August 28th 2005. To say that I have simply enjoyed my time with him would be an underestimation. Matthew and his family have been so generous and kind to me over the years. I have learned a lot about him and proud to say that his heart is in the right place. Everyone who knows Matthew understands why his humor and charm is so infectious. You have made me a better person mate and I will never forget you. Jamie Fernandes Matt Gift is one person, without a doubt, that I have to say I have had some ridiculous times with. Das Boot, nights at the house, hitting up the bars, are only a few moments that I have spent with Matt Gift. Matt, good luck in the future, keep working hard. A YO MATT GIFT... WHAT UPPP Pmack

Mark E. Gliebe

"Gliebeezy", "Gleebs"
Richmond, Virginia
Economics and Business
Army

Ice Hockey (Captain 4,3) 2,1; Newman Club 4,3,2,1; Ring Figure Dinner CIC

Matriculation day with Edwin. Sunsets w/ Jed. Letter writing. "Whats up dog?" Blechman shananigans. Jesse Ventura. Adam Stewartisms. "Copperline and You're Beautiful." Partying in Mikey's room. Christmas break 05-06. Knocking in doors w/ Jose. Grab 'N run at ECU. Swimming at UNCW. Roadtrip to Tech. "Hey Joe, listen here ____" 06 and 07 hockey players = most ridiculous people ever. HSBs. Westhouse. $14. Canningisms. Rm 144 Dude Love.Radford quadfest. HSC greek week. Hockey hotel parties. 323 dances parties, rumbles and videos. 07 Boxing Match. Adventures to JMU. Winthrop game 07. VMI soulja boy. Halloween at UNCW 07. "Alicia Keys - Diaries, No One." "Treat 'em like dirt, they'll stick to you like mud." Midwinter 08 w/ Ben and Joe. Crazy nights at UVA. Ring Figure 09 – before sat parade, tour bus, destroying ice huges, skulls shirts. "No Homo." Quisqueya. Joses smoking binge. Charlotte hole-in-the-wall bar. Annapolis Trip. Spring FTX from Hell. Nights at BF. Preakness 08. Bama Jam 08. Charleston 08. Friday Cheers. 8arred from GW. Innsbrook afterhours. "Foreva, eva?" Creepers. Jimmy Buffet 08. Corey Smith 08. Louisville trip 08. Citadel win 08. Sisco and Isabelle. JMU vs. Montana. . Peter Pan Halloween 08. Trip to Philly. "Jose, the childlock." Beach bars in Wilmington. Spring Break 07 roadtrip up I-81. Gunshots in Yorktown. Fateful night at W&M. Ty Woods house. Laguna Beach. Italy 07. VA beach trips 07 and 08. All BRHC 07-08. "I went to the Bahamas over break." The Green Machine. "Girls will always disappoint, but alcohol never will." To my parents – Thank you for your continued support through my early adult years and allowing me to pursue my goals and dreams. Emily – Thanks for being a great younger sister. I hope I have been a good role model for you. I love you guys dearly. 323, 223, 161 (Dennis, Edwin, Joe and Jose) Rats – It's been a pleasure, make us proud and stay in touch. To everyone else – in the words of Corey Smith, "If I could do it again, I do it the same, not one regret wouldn't change a thing." – Be easy, from Gliebeezy.

Matthew J. Glomb

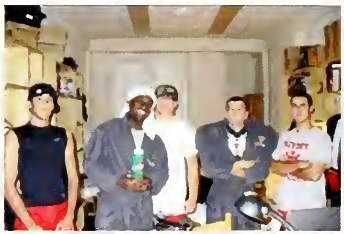
"GLOMB", "Glum-drops"
Richmond, Virginia
Chemistry
Air Force

Little John CIC '09; American Chemical Society; Special Actions Detachment; Racquetball Club ; Theatre Tech. Crew, CQRB 4-Square Club, BSU; Sweet Fade of the month, 8th Corporal (3rd string), 2nd Plt. Lt.

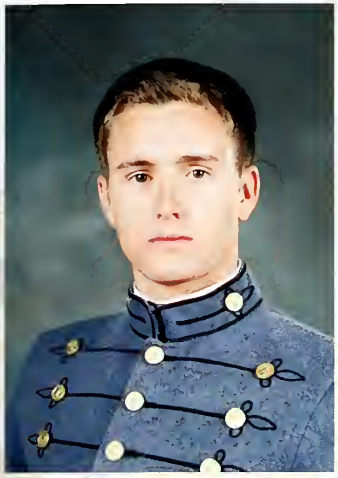
Many a good night was had breaking some rule, doing something dumb, just having fun, or the strange and dangerous in the lab... Even the nights in watching movies were memorable. It will be a big change not having everyone here around for support, laughter, insults, and jokes. I have changed a lot since matriculation, been through some very rough times, and some great times, but leaving with a smile and a better person. To my friends: Thanks for everything you have done for me. You had to put up with a lot of my superfluously secretive moments, the drunken nights, and me just quietly being present. And no, I still won't tell you how I got nor did those things. No Intel briefs either. Roommates: We've definitely been through some crazy stuff together. All of those nights at the bar and elsewhere were aptly spent. I don't think anything will live up to our big screen either. Stu-pot, thanks for everything, you've done more than you know for me. But I do have a feeling you will follow me around for eternity, so I will see you later. And for the record: NO BECKY; and Red Fox is still not there. Rats: Don't be dumb, take out the trash, and keep in touch. Godspeed. The A.C's: Oye, we've been through some crap together. These past four years have been interesting. Both of you have shaped me more than you could ever know. ILY 2; yea I said it, and yes even in a potato sack :). I will always be here for you though. Keep in touch; even if I don't call you, I probably want to talk to you, you know me. Family: I don't even know where to start this. You all have done so much for me. I wouldn't be nearly the person I am if it wasn't for you. Thank you. I hope I will be able to repay you somehow. Mom, sorry about all the grey hairs...I know I put you through hell with everyone of my breaths. Dad, that goes for you too, I know it mattered more than you let on; well, at least for 2 weeks. I wish I could say all of the things I want to, but there's a lot, and you know I'm not good at saying things; I love you.

DYKE 2006: William C. Collier
RAT 2012: Chris Kitchen

DYKE 2006: Justin H. Woulfe
RAT 2012: Dallas Disbro, Terrell Lynch



DYKE 2006: David F. Mercera
RAT 2012: Daniel Vaden



Joshua T. Gober

"Goober", "Joshy G."
Chesapeake, Virginia
Economics and Business
Navy

Rat Challenge (Cpl. '07, Sgt. '08, LT. / CO '09) 6th Cpl./Golf Co, 2nd Plt. Guide Sgt./Golf Co, Golf Guidon/Proud 1st Class Private Golf Co. Cadet Investment Group Sigma Beta Delta, Omega Delta Epsilon

Firstly, thank you mom and dad for the support, guidance, and love throughout my life, especially these past four years. I am the man I am today because of you both. Secondly, thank you to my sister and friends who are the best I can imagine. I could not have made it this far without you all. You mean the world to me. My cadetship at VMI has been an irreplaceable life changing, and more specifically a life defining, experience that gets more realizable as time goes on. I still have not fully grasped all that this place has done and given to me, but that is one of the treasures of VMI, with time it will come into light. I appreciate VMI and respect all that it stands for and all the lessons it teaches to its cadets. Graduating is as bittersweet as it gets. I will miss my Brother Rats and all the great friends I have made. I look forward to seeing all of you again. To Hosey, Bish, John, and Ross: I love you guys and cannot imagine this place without you. I cherish our friendship, all the great times we have had, and look forward to all the ones we will have. I miss you guys already and you know you can call me whenever, wherever. Until then, try not to bust too many balls.

DYKE 2006: Christopher J. Authier
RAT 2012: Sean O'Regan

Nathaniel B. Goldsmith

Ruckersville, Virginia
International Studies and Arabic
Army

Triathlon 2nd class year, MMA CIC 1st Class year, F-troop 1PL SGT, F-troop CO 2009

I can't believe I'm writing this already. It seems like this place has become so much a part of me that it is strange to think about never having to come back here. I'm ecstatic about never having to live in a room so tight you had to step on hays to get out, or run across the street for fear of being caught (even at 21 years old), or most of all, never again having to stand in Ltrain's office and explain why I broke another one of his rules even though I knew I would probably get caught. I think you either have to really love this place deep down in your soul, or just be too plain stubborn to walk away. For me it certainly has been a tug of war between the two, and there have been lots of times when I would have burned barracks to the ground. But really when I think about all the good that has come of this "college experience" I would have it no other way. I do love this school and all that it has taught me and so many others, and I am glad to have met so many quality people along the way that in the end it was definitely worth it. I wouldn't give up my time at VMI for anything, but you are crazy if you think I'd ever do it again.

DYKE 2006: Bart F. Payne
RAT 2012: Kyle Reese

Charles A. Gore

Pulaski, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Navy

Triathlon

I want to thank everyone who helped me through the process of graduating and becoming a man. My time here was a blessing and a curse. There were good times and hardships, and even though I hated being here, VMI taught me a lot. Above all, it taught me how to overcome adversary and challenge myself to become better every day. My advice to my Rats is to not become complacent here, or anywhere, because opportunities are everywhere. But if you do not act on them, opportunities are worthless. I will carry the knowledge I learned at the "Mother I" into the Navy and the rest of my life. DUDE LOVE and God Bless!

DYKE 2006: Aaron Hawkins
RAT 2012: Daniel Clynes, Dane Thornton

Thomas D. Gottwald

"Gotty", "Gotts", "Sasquatch"
Richmond, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Air Force

VMI Rifle; Mini Baja Car; Cadet Firefighter; New Market Marcher for Class of 2009; The Cadet; Engineering Club; Delta

I came to VMI with a set plan for life and a desire to be challenged. It was the only school I applied to because it offered so much freedom of opportunity and seemed like the best fit; I felt it in my heart. I thought I knew exactly who I was. The VMI experience has taught me a lot more about myself and life though: I've learned that plans aren't concrete- goals sometimes change and that's OK, I've learned to take things day-by-day and to remain dynamic. There's a difference between stress and pressure; it's often hard to separate the two, but my cadetship has taught me how to reason with both. I've learned that love's not a game and that it shouldn't be taken for granted. I've also learned the importance of keeping to one's word. Overall, my last four years at VMI have taught me what matters in life and have shaped me into a better man. The lessons have been countless, but I also realize that they're not over. In the end though, I couldn't have benefited from this experience without those who have supported me along the way: To those faculty and staff- thank you for always believing in me and pushing me to finish. To the Rifle Team- I'll never forget those crazy trips. Shoot straight! To my BRs and friends- keep "living the dream." Delta '09- I'll never forget the "family" meals at our Rat tables. Kyle- I'll always look up to you bud. I couldn't have asked for a better dyke and mentor. To the Rats of '09- you've taught me a lot and kept things interesting. Remember that this is just the beginning and that your dykes will always be there. Michael, Barrett, and Fish- you're true friends. I feel fortunate that God's given me three more brothers.
God bless you all, and God bless the Mother I.
You can't go out backwards. You have to come forward to go back.
Better press on: Willy Wonka

DYKE 2006: Kyle A. Fricke
RAT 2012: Joseph I. Munno

Adam J. Grabill

Belleville, Pennsylvania
International Studies and Arabic
Army

MMA

I never would have made it through the last four years if it would not have been for my Faith, my family, and all my friends here. I have learned a lot here at VMI and it is what makes me who I am today. Thank you everyone for all your support. I have a lot to live up to and I'm very glad that it's definitely time to move on.

DYKE 2006: Gabby V. Canceran
RAT 2012: Gordon Ellison

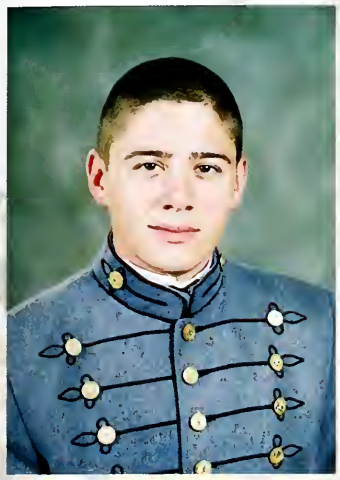
Shawn P. Graham

"The 5 Day Keydet"
Chester, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Air Force

NCAA soccer (2 years), Cadet Investment Group (1 year)

To my family: Mom, Kenny, Dad, Brett, JR, and Michelle "Now you can say you are proud, thank you for everything." To my other family: Red, KB, Freakshow, Bizzle, Baunchface, Claydawg "We started in the sinks together and ended in the sinks together. Over the past four years, we have pretty much eaten every meal together and made a huge mess of good ole' Club Crozet, all in good fun. I will not miss the drama of the Institute, but I know I will miss being able to come next door when I am bored and kicking your door shut and yelling loud obscene things just to be obnoxious. So our time here is up, looks like we are just going to have to find a new place to reside together. Welllllllllll Cyyyyaaaaa!"

DYKE 2006: Timothy J. Stover
RAT 2012: Chris Baber



David G. Grey

"Meatloaf"
Wilmington, Delaware
International Studies
Navy

Everything I have and accomplished is a direct result of my family. I could not imagine being where I am without them. My mom and dad have been unsurpassed role models while I've always had an open ear with my brother and sister. Thank you for your unconditional love and support.

DYKE 2006: Joseph L. Gill II
RAT 2012: Rich Naraine

Dennis M. Habersang

"Hankey", "Hankeytown"
Wallingford, Connecticut
Chemistry
Navy

ACS, GSE

I really have no idea what I should put in what amounts to as my "first-class biography" with out being insincerely sappy or soul crushingly depressing. The idea that I have spent the "four best years of my life" in a school which most of the student body hates is disturbing; the worst realization is that, excepting a select few, we are all immensely proud of this, as though being shackled to an archaic way of life is somehow better than the drunken bliss of my peers in other colleges. Still, this belief is what has allowed me to make it through VMI these four years. This belief will also be the source of the warm fuzzy feeling that will surge through me as I once again gaze on the four sandstone revival gothic walls of barracks when I return, thirty years from now, as an old, fat, drunk alumnus.

DYKE 2006: William C. Pettit
RAT 2012: Shane Perry

George L. Handler, IV

"Greg", "Coldstone", "Shrek"
New Kent, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Air Force

Cadre 3 RDC 1 Football 4,3,2,1,5

I feel like there have been people in my life that have influenced me to become the person I am, and they deserve recognition. My parents are the most important people in my life, and they have provided for me time and time again. To my dad, who drove around a minivan so his two kids can drive trucks back and forth two school, who has become a front row fan to whatever I have participated in, who has always been proud but never satisfied in what I have accomplished, I thank you. To my mom, who taught me how to play every sport I've ever done but who never actually played them, who has taught me how to live life with emotion, and who taught me how to trust in God and things will always work out for the better when we put forth our best effort, I thank you. To my brother, who has been the reason I try to be perfect, who is my fiercest competitor and my best companion, who has been there to cheer me up and calm me down, and who is the only person in the entire world that I care whether or not they like me, I thank you. To my girlfriend, who is everything I am not, who has been there to guide me through my years at the I, and who has my heart in the palm of her hand, I thank you. To my grandpa even through VMI, who has played the role of best friend and mentor, and who has given me the perfect example of what a grandparent should be, I thank you. Young, Snuffin, Mims and Sculley have been the most entertaining people. Not only have they dealt with my crap, but they have been able to dish out their own on occasion, and even though I have had some quarrel with one of them at one time throughout my cadetship, nothing will ever stand between our bonds. To my dyke, Jonathan Mayhew, who showed me through here when I was blind, I thank you. Last but not least, our rats; Bailey Baird, Coughlin, Harrington, Smith, Todd, Walker, and Webb. You all have what it takes to succeed here; just walking across the stage isn't enough. Especially to Rob and Luke, you too will be great cadets, and some day make great dykes yourselves.

DYKE 2006: Jonathan E. Mayhew
RAT 2012: Robert Bailey, Luke Todd

Sara L. Hanson

Stoneville, North Carolina
Arabic
Air Force

VMI Theatre (4 years), CCS (2 years)-ACIC, Academic Mentor, Cross Country (1 year) Track (2 years), VMI Foundation (3 years)

"People often say that motivation doesn't last. Well, neither does bathing—that's why we recommend it daily." I feel this is completely applicable to survival at VMI. It is definitely the motivation of my friends that has gotten me through these four years. Without the support of certain amazing individuals, there is no way I would have had the means or motivation to finish. Here's to Jacob, watching the entire X-Files series 3rd class year with me was simply fabulous. To Shawdy, who pushed me out of my shell even when I hated it. To my Rat, my best advice: be yourself no matter what! To my dyke, thanks for teaching me the essentials to survive such as: be independent, study abroad, and do not be too stubborn to ask for help if you need it. To VMI Theatre, which always gave me a way to express myself when confined to the concrete walls and uniforms of the Institute. There has certainly been plenty of bad along the way, plenty of things I would never want to repeat, but there were always great friends to help pick up the pieces. That kind of bond can only come from the madness of VMI and those crazy enough to stick it out. Thanks to all of you for being my family and my stability through thick and thin.

DYKE 2006: Colleen M. Logan
RAT 2012: Elisa Martinez

Alexander J. Harms

"HarmsCore"
Madison, Wisconsin
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Army

Marathon Club, Rat Challenge House Mountain, CEA Rep F-Troop, Former Mess Hall Rep

"If you're ever stuck in some thick undergrowth, in your underwear, don't stop and start thinking of what other words have "under" in them, because that's probably the first sign of jungle madness." Deep Thoughts by Jack Handey

DYKE 2006: Kevin J. Simpson
RAT 2012: Tyler Snow, Ryan Lee

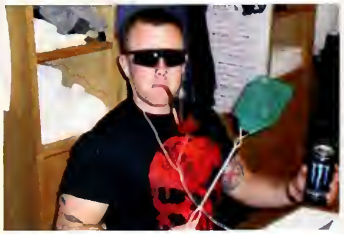
Nicholas J. Harrelson

"Roscoe", "Rage"
Danville, Virginia
History
Army

Powerlifting, Ranger Challenge, Bodybuilding Club

Brother Rats, though I am not departing with you in this last month of our cadetship, I wish you all the best of luck in your chosen fields. It has been an arduous journey. There were many times that I wanted to give up, and many times I felt absolutely alone even though I was surrounded by smelly, foul mouthed creatures such as yourselves. Yet, I knew I wasn't alone because I had you all, my brother rats, to lift me up and carry me to places I wasn't able to go by myself. I've been warned that I will miss this place. I will miss the bugle calls in the morning and evening, the Commandant's Staff dropping in for a not so friendly hello, Colonel Levenson delivering a pizza he swiped from my rat and my rats throwing out my clean laundry while leaving my dirty laundry hanging up in the room. However, I have another semester to "enjoy" this place and thats what I intend to do. Thank you all.

DYKE 2006: James G. Wicker
RAT 2012: Chris Bouldin



Becky A. Harris

Crystal River, Florida
English
Marine Corps

Equestrian Club, NCAA Swimming and Diving, Triathlon Club, Ring Figure Committee 09', Post Tour Guide, Glee Club, S7 Cadet Life Captain 09'

First and foremost, I owe an immense amount of thanks and gratitude to the woman who has been there for me through it all. To a woman who taught me that life is full of endless opportunities and as long as I believe in myself I can make them come true. Mom, without you I never would have made it to where I am today. I would also like to thank my entire family for the numerous amounts of cards that were sent throughout my cadetship. Every one of them was greatly appreciated. Thank you for everything and I love all of you. Bother Rats what happens from here? The past four years have been a mixture of pain and happiness. For most of us, there have been more accounts of sadness, but "The purpose of life is not to be happy, it is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well." Brother Rats, I feel that we have done at least this. Having graduated from this great institution we have been honorable, compassionate, and are going to make a difference and NOW it is our time to LIVE and LIVE WELL! The Class of 2009 has left an unmatched mark on the institute. I wish you all the best of luck in your future. May you all have safe and successful careers. To the rats of Club 171. Rats, you still have a long journey ahead of you. Be sure to never let go of the things that mean the most to you. Maintain the spirit, compassion, and integrity that you have today. Your time at the institute will not go without reward and most importantly remember that I am always here for you. Good luck and Godspeed!

Hamilton H. Harris

"Das Hammer", "Hammerzeit", "Triple H"
Roanoke, Virginia
History
Army

Rat Cadre; RDC; Club Golf; Legion of Doom; Tiger Echo; hopeless romantic

If there is one thing I can say for certain about the last four years, it is that I have had the pleasure of getting to know many extraordinary men and women. Perhaps VMI never lived up to the preconceptions that many of us had before we signed the book, but as we collectively finish this chapter of our lives, we can reflect on memories and realize that the "I" made its mark for better or worse but hopefully peace of mind can be found somewhere in the experience. I would like to thank God, my family, and my friends who were always in my corner through the countless highs and lows. A special thanks goes out to my brothers of room 123- Danni, Kevie, Nicki, and Ricki. If conventional wisdom holds true in that the quality of one's character can be judged by looking at one's closest associates, I can proudly say that I am a far superior man than I alone deserve to be.

James M. Harvey

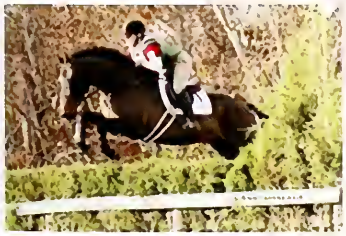
"Harv-Dog", "Chuck"
Orange, Virginia
International Studies
Marine Corps

Club basketball, NCMT Cadre, Semper Fi Society

VMI has been my home for the past four years, through the good times and bad it has been home. I never thought I would consider this place home, but looking back at my time here I realize it was. It is where I studied, where I slept and where I ate; but that's not what made it home to me, for me it was my Brother Rats. Without them this place could never have been home. Don't get me wrong, I am grateful for my time at The Institute and I have learned much in my time here. However, it was my BR's that made this place bearable. To all my Brother Rats, it has been my honor and privilege to spend these four years with you. Especially all my roommates over the years and my closest friends, particularly my ALPHA brothers, you made this place a home. As we prepare to go our separate ways, I will always remember the bond we shared and will be there for any of you if you should ever need anything. To my rats; Hank, Bruce, Rob, Andrew and Zach, I am proud to have had the opportunity to watch you grow through out this year and I look forward to hearing of the great things you will do in the future. I wish everyone here at VMI the best in your future endeavors, let The Institute's legacy continue to prosper and live on.

Semper Fidelis and Hardcore ALPHA!

DYKE 2006: Alana N. Parks
RAT 2012: Lindsey Parkman, Shu-Hui He



DYKE 2006: Christopher L. Stone
RAT 2012: Sean Romoser

DYKE 2006: Joseph D. Amatetti
RAT 2012: Hank Rhodenizer

Thomas A. Hayden, Jr.

"Country"
Moneta, Virginia
Psychology
Air Force

Baseball, Hockey, Trap and Skeet

I came to the toughest school in the country, and the only place I'd graduate. I want to thank my parents, friends, and my future wife Melissa. Without her smiling face every weekend, I wouldn't have made it through the week. I love you. Tyler, I have taught you everything you need to know to get through this place. However, I have a terrible memory so if I forgot something, don't be afraid to ask. Andy, you should be on that stage with me, but you took your punishment like a man and did the right thing. Because of that you have become stronger and I'm proud to have you as one of my best friends. Finish strong, I'll see you on the outside. SGM Neel, you helped me out more times that I can remember, even though I did salute you like twenty times as a rat. For your help I am very grateful, one day I hope I can return the favor. After four years of my life spent here at VMI, I have learned many things, but there is nothing that I can appreciate more than being able to say THANK GOD I'M DONE!

DKYE 2006: Jonathan L. Wilson
RAT 2012: Tyler Brown

Christopher M. Henderson

"Hendu"
Fredericksburg, Virginia
Psychology
Air Force

Baseball Team: Fall 2005-Spring 2009

"The phoenix hope, can wing her way through the desert skies, and still defying fortune's spite: revive from the ashes and rise." - Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra

Its been an experience. At this point, I can't possibly say whether it was good or bad. I made life-long friends of the most dependable character; I learned life-long lessons whereas having attended another institution, I would not have been handed the opportunity to learn; I acquired skills and ethic none other than my closest loved ones and friends ever thought could possibly be found in me. Maybe it was good after all. It has not been a smooth sail by any means, but rather one plagued by unforeseen darkness and storm - but I would not have had it any other way, because it, VMI, made me realize the meaning to all I have done all my life - to rise when fallen, and persevere when all hope seems lost. I want to thank my lifetime very best friend Josh Hill ('10) for always being the best friend anyone could ask for through all these years - you're irreplaceable and I love you; To my new-found best friend Jared Klainbart - I cannot put into words how much I appreciate each and every smile you put back on my face in troubled times; to my family, and most of all, to my mother - without you, this is not possible. Without you, I'm nothing. You are the reason for my success and its continuation. You're the very best mom a kid could dream of; and you are the template that shapes me into the man I persist to become - I love you more than anything in the world. Go Keydets!

DYKE 2006: Jonathan A. Hollenbeck
RAT 2012: Adam A. Lopez, Jacob A. Morley

Adam S. Hernandez

"Dez"
Leesburg, Virginia
History
Air Force

Cross Country, Indoor and Outdoor Track

To the Institute: "I don't believe this place accurately represents the military... to tell you the truth I don't believe this place knows how to accurately represent itself." –Former VMI Staff Member. I believe that quote completely sums up my views towards VMI. That being said, while this place did prove to be a challenging experience I am glad I chose not to leave because I feel I did come out a better person. To my parents: Thank you for your constant support and encouragement during these past four years. When I left for VMI I could not wait to get away from home. However, these past four years have helped me in realizing that while the distance between us grew, my appreciation for the both of you became stronger. To quote Walt Disney, "whatever we have accomplished has been because other people have helped us." I would not have been able to make it this far without both of your support. Thank you. To my roommates, the girls and friends: You made this place bearable. Thank you for the laughs and memories. I hope that you all will remain in my life. To my dyke: You were right. To my rats: You guys made my final year here a memorable one. Stay with it and don't sign the papers. You both earned my respect.

DYKE: 2006: Mark E. Bush
RAT 2012: Vinnie Gallo, Alex Stalnaker

Taylor R. Herring

"Fish"
Brenham, Texas
International Studies
Marine Corps

The institute Brass and Semper Fi Society

As our time comes to a close here at the Mother I, we all ask ourselves the same question or at least close to it, "Was it worth it?" I would like to think yes that by ignoring the regular college life of fun and partying that the world that we have known for the past four years will pay off in the end. The truth is right now I don't know if it has or not, only time will tell. We all know what the best part of VMI is, the people. The friends that I have developed here are like brothers to me and I have nothing but the highest expectations for where they will go with their lives. As I leave here I would just like to say some closing remarks to some people. First to my fiancé Ashley, thank you for putting up with all that is VMI. We are now members of the 1% of VMI relationships that make it and without you there for me to talk to I don't know what I would have done. To the people of Band Company, you will never get all the credit and thanks you deserve but you are the finest organization here on post. The extra practices while the rest of the corps has CQ or the constantly getting dumped on by the Commandant's staff, it all may have been a burden but without your services, parades would be impossible along with many other aspects of the institute that most people will never think of. It has been an honor to serve as your CO this past year and I wish you all the best of luck in whatever you may do. To my roommates, you are my closest friends and without you there this place would have been a much darker place. We have had more than our fair share of good times on and off post and I hope to have a few more. Chase thank you for putting up with all of our antics. Finally, to my rats I leave you this. I picked both of you because you were in Band Company and from the great nation of Texas. I have watched you develop as men and as cadets and I could not be more proud. Remember to never let this place get to you and not take it too seriously. Whether you like it or not this place can prepare you for your future life so use it while you can. To everyone, I thank you for the past four years and wish you good luck.

DYKE 2006: Jackson L. Todd
RAT 2012: Trevor Childers, Austin Hogan

Gregory R. Hersh

Virginia Beach, Virginia
History and Modern Languages
Navy

DYKE 2006: Nicholas D. Dowdle
RAT 2012:

Daniel M. Hingley

"Dan", "Head"
Glen Allen, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Air Force

Rugby

After 4 years at this place, it's hard to believe it's finally coming to an end. To my roommates, from nights out at the Palms to the rugby trip to San Diego, it's been a good few years and we've made a lot of great memories together. It'll be weird not waking up to Riley's snoring, or tuning out Tuna's incessant singing, or trying to hearing myself think over Fletch's ridiculously loud Bostonian voice. I'll miss you guys, but I know we'll be in touch. Good luck with the Navy, I know all of you guys will do awesome.
To my rats, Ryan and Andrew, and the other rats of 112, remember that this place is whatever you decide to make of it. These can be some of the best years of your life, or the worst. Don't let the system get you down when things don't go as expected; things always have a way of working themselves out. Take advantage of every opportunity you have here, whether it's doing cadre, playing rugby, or studying abroad, because you won't get the chance to do it over again. You guys have been great rats, and I hope you are as lucky when it comes time to get your own. I was fortunate enough to spend two years here with my brother Sean before he graduated. So Sean, thanks for your great example and making my first year as hard as you could. It was nice knowing I had my big brother just across barracks for those first couple of years.
My time here at VMI has been invaluable: I have made some great friends and I wouldn't trade it for anything, but now that this long anticipated date is nearly here, I think it is safe to say that I have had my fill of VMI for a while.
"For I consider that these current sufferings are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed within." -Romans 8:18

DYKE 2006: Henry S. Zhang
RAT 2012: Andrew Reavis, Ryan Aiken

Dana J. Hlavaty
"H-lav"
Novi, Michigan
International Studies
Army

CEA Bravo Company Representative; NCMT; VMI Theater; Little John Crew; The Council

VMI Haiku

This place sucks a lot

I should have gone somewhere else

Unacceptable!

DYKE 2006: Patrick J. Heiny
RAT 2012: Nathan Hebb

Bridger L. Hodsden, Jr.
"Beat Box", "Bridge"
Chesapeake, Virginia
English
Air Force

Cadet Investment Group, NCAA Track and Field, English Society, History Society, Timmins-Gentry Music Society, Big Brother/Big Sister, S-6 Corporal, S-7 Sergeant, 1st Class Private

Are my thoughts about VMI really able to make it into 500 words? I really doubt it; however, I'll give it my best shot, for I owe it to my brother rats. I have a lot of words I could use to sum up my experience at VMI - more bad than good, but I cannot complain. What I have learned here is more than I could have imagined. The friends I met here are better than I could have imagined. What I will take away from here is greater than I could have imagined. Of course there were and still are a lot of things I disagree with at VMI, but you have to take the good with the bad. Throughout my four years here at the Institute I have truly been challenged... I hate to say it and agree with VMI's slogan, but its true. For the remainder of my life I know I will draw from my experiences here to get me through so don't be surprised if you (brother rats and professors) receive a call from me. There are few places and people I go and meet that impress me, but that certainly does not hold true with anyone connected with VMI. You all impress me. With that said, I hope I live up to your standards. We will all go our different ways, but I know we will always stay in touch. That is what is most important to me. To my roommate, Austin, thank you for putting up with my #$% &$ for four years... you and I both know I probably could not have made it without you. I look forward to being your friend for the rest of my life. And to all of my other roommates throughout the years: Trevor, Jake, Bradley, Phil, Big Daddy, and last, but not least, Alex - Thank you for everything you have done. I hope I have been the same friend to you as you have been to me. To all of our rats: Karter, Mitch, Matt, Mac, and Will. I hope we have taught you what is necessary to get through here. I know you all have it in you to do well and succeed in your own way. Accomplish what you should, but have FUN with it! Now, with all of the sentimental #$%'& %$ out of the way... lets go buy a bottle of Listerine, wash this bad taste out of our mouth and start fresh!

DYKE 2006: Kyle F. Madden
RAT 2012: K. Riviera

Gordon G. Holloway
"Gordoway", "Hollowhead", "Gordo"
Williamsburg, Virginia
History
Army

Rat Challenge, Phi Alpha Theta, Phi Kappa Phi, Virginia Historical Society, Broski

A VMI Cadet experiences things that no other human being in the world could ever imagine; I was no different as a high school student. Listening to the stories that my uncle and grandfather would always tell at family gatherings of their time in the Corps always ended in laughter, so I figured how bad could this place possibly be? All I knew when I accepted my appointment to VMI was that I wanted a good education, a different college experience, and to make my family proud. I not only received those three things, but much more. Although I generally looked at this place with hatred, I have to admit that I have come out a better person.

To my rat, Travis, stay strong. Your cadetship has just begun, but it won't be long until you are writing your 1st Class Narrative. Make sure you and your brother rats carry on the legacy of 2009 and the tradition that VMI is based on. Make sure you stay true to your brother rats and help them along. Your brother rats are friends that you will keep for you entire life. Keep studying and take lots of weekends.

I want to thank ALL of my brother rats. I feel like I've been through combat with you guys. I don't think there is any other school in the world where a student can honestly say that they have at least met all of their classmates. We have lived together, sweated together, laughed together, and been through hell and back together. There is no way to explain the life we live to those who haven't experienced it, but with my brother rats we know and we understand. We understand why we wake up when its still dark outside every day of the week except Sunday, and why we are forced to spend our Monday afternoons marching around in circles on the parade ground. Because we understand, we are there for each other, and I thank all of you for that.

DYKE 2006: Richard M. Tamillow
RAT 2012: Travis Uminski

Chavis L. Holmes

Charlotte, North Carolina
Economics and Business
Air Force

VMI Basketball

Travis W. Holmes

"Twin", "Holmsie", "Trav"
Charlotte, North Carolina
Economics and Business
Air Force

VMI Basketball

Andrew M. Hosey

Manassas, Virginia
International Studies and Arabic
Army

Honor Court

It's hard to look back over these past four years and not think of my friends, my best friends who I will have for the rest of my life. There is no doubt in my mind, that if I did not have my roommates Ramsay, Gober, John and Bish, I don't think I would be who I am today, and I love you all for that. I know we will keep in touch over the years, so there is no need for good-byes now. VMI has not been the most enjoyable experience, I don't think it was designed to be, but you have to make light of the situation here and keep your head up, never down. To the Court, we have seen the good and the bad, and we have seen the side of VMI that only a few can. I will walk away from here proud and privileged. Proud to have served with all of you, Nik, Roger, Phil, Petey and Joel- Merv (PDB), Trent, Carter, Kelley and Nate, and the APs Ottie Gene, Mikey, Bill, Jack, Chaz and Wes. I have all the faith in the world that the Code is safe with you and I know you will continue to fight the good fight. And I am privileged to have shared my greatest experience here at VMI with you and I can't think of a better group of guys who are as dedicated and focused as you all. Dad, Mom and Boonie I love you guys more than anything in this world and thank you for your support and love. Dad, I will carry your words with me for the rest of my life, and I cherish that.

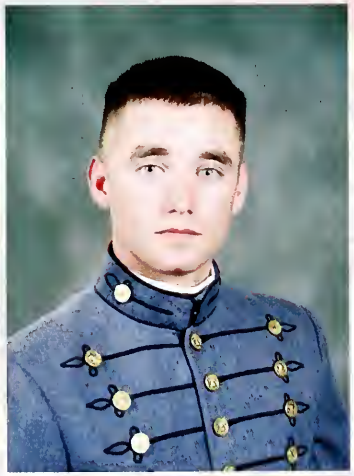
DYKE 2006: Jonas Narbutas
RAT 2012:

DYKE 2006: Tadas Mankevicius
RAT 2012: Keith Gabriel

DYKE 2006: Matthew E. Plant
RAT 2012: Jamie Hardey

Tory K. Hoyt

Springfield, Virginia
International Studies
Army



Michael S. Huffman, II

Staunton, Virginia
Psychology
Army

National Guard

William M. Hyatt

Sumter, South Carolina
International Studies
Marine Corps

Triathlon Club

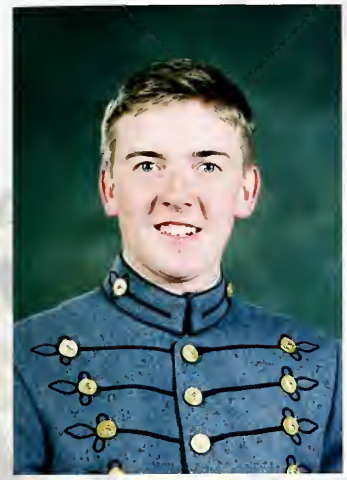
The journey started four long years ago, and in my case it will have to continue for several more. A deployment overseas took me away from the Institute for a good deal of the time I should have spent with my brother rats, but it has also helped me to realize just what this place means to me. They say you don't know a good thing till it's gone, and in a sense I experienced that during my time away. As crazy as it sounds to say this, I was glad VMI was still here for me to return to. So I can't write this from the perspective of "I never would have made it if..." as I still have a good distance yet to cover, but I will give credit to those who have helped me get this far and I know will see me through to the end of my time here. To my parents, who have always set the example for me to follow to an honorable life, without their wisdom, (and when necessary) stubbornness I have no idea where id be today; to my sister Rebecca and brother David who have listened to my gripes and helped me every way they could, a big shout out goes to my roommates and also my fellow veterans here at VMI, both those who deployed with me and those who served on separate tours; without you guys to lean on when things started to suck I don't know how I would have survived the first semester back. Echo Is the best company on the hill, so I just wanted to include that to remind anyone who may be reading this. It has been an honor and a privilege to pass through barracks with the class of 2009. To my rats; well, hang in there guys, I'll be around a little longer than the rest of your dykes so no need for farewells just yet. You guys have all made me proud this year and I look forward to seeing you progress through your cadetships (and hopefully not be around to see you progress all the way to graduation) Also id like to thank all of my professors, without your hard work finding ways to force intelligence between my ears the ring I wear would mean a fraction of what it does to me.

Over the past four years I have learned a lot about VMI. The walls of barracks, the cannons, and all the historical significance do not really mean as much as they are given credit. VMI is a place where friendships are made and you find out which friendships are going to last. In the end it will not matter who was a stellar cadet or who could care less. To all my roommates: I could not ask for a better set of friends or individuals I know I could call on at anytime. You all helped me through the best days and the worst, from VMI to the beach houses in spring break. You all stood by me at times when you did not have to. To all my other friends thank you for everything you have done over the past four years and all of the support you have given me. Jamie, Andy, and Karsten thank you for always listening and all the advice you offered. To 233 thanks for always setting the standard, and seeking to raise the bar. You are an amazing room with amazing potential. For all the rats of 122 I hope we were able to provide you with enough guidance, discipline, and answers. Continue to do what is right over the next four years. You are going to have both high and low times, but you always have each other and your dykes. Do not get caught up in the little things. Do not worry about the latest rumor or gossip that is spreading. In the end just remember to follow your heart and it will lead you in the right direction.

DYKE 2006: Joseph A. Rouleau
RAT 2012: Adam Looney

DYKE 2006: Jonathan F. Everiss
RAT 2012: Ken Cross

DYKE 2006: Mark T. Searles
RAT 2012: Justin McCarthy, Adrian Dominguez



Eric D. Jackson

"Relaxin'"
Abingdon, Virginia
History
Army

Cadet Battery

I am leaving VMI a completely different person than I was when I first entered the hallowed barracks. I have realized that the world owes me nothing, and the finest things in life must be worked for. I have learned how to see through the b/s in almost any situation. I have learned true friends are not easy to come by, and fortunately, they are just as hard to lose. I have learned how to spot a good woman who is capable of love, and how to see through the ones who lack the essence of a fine lady. I have learned how to appreciate a fine lady as well. Most of all, I have learned who I am. God bless the cadets, faculty, and administration who served as examples of kind, honorable men and women. God bless the people who served as examples of how not to lead and treat people, and God bless the Mother I.

DYKE 2006: Phillip J. Lacey
RAT 2012: Royce Chuang, David Yost

Philip J. Joerdens, IV

"Kip", "Skip Giblet", "Flip Jib"
Ellicott City, Maryland
Civil Engineering
Air Force

NCAA Lacrosse (Rat year), Club Lacrosse (3rd Class year), Ring Figure Committee (3rd and 2nd class year), Society of American Military Engineers (2nd and 1st Class years), Mess Hall Rep (1st Class year)

I'm glad it's finally over, while it was no girl next door time period in my life I will always remember the "incident" on the bus ride to Yorktown, not having a room for several weeks, my "AGIC" from "acrosst" the room, John Saun's cabin, Bish and his red wine, Durham and that bandana, trips up to BIG Ts especially that one time with little t and then Mitch shaking the entire ride back, the run ins with daddy, Parent's Basement FTX, winning every argument I ever got into. I always knew Taylor would make a better roommate than Goldsmith, I'm just sad we never had the chance to prove it. All of those CE shenanigans and the good times spent on modules... John Saun: It is B.S. and I am a leaner, Gary and all his stupid comments throughout the entire class, every class. Did you get your DW this weekend? Then there is a "ball dance, a formal dance" and Kelly...enough said, Dr. Jones, lighting the stoop on fire during Ring Figure with Chris Brown, and my sweet Cinco de Mayo parties. Justin: Thanks for all the help and support 3rd class year. I couldn't have made it through the rough times without you. Thanks to Mom, Dad, Ashley and Eric for supporting me through it all or at least some of it. To the rats (Emo, NASCAR, Ray, and Sam): Have fun the next 3 years it'll be over soon enough. I heard The Boys are back in town and they were victorious! Goldsmith...Goldsmith...

DYKE 2006: Lee A. Cook, III
RAT 2012: Bruce Leuthhold

Daniel S. Johnson

"The Muffin Man", "Chap", "Sponge"
Florence, Kentucky
History and Arabic
Army

Cadet Chaplain, Glee Club Vice President, Pipe and Drum Team ACIC, Ultimate Frisbee, Baptist Student Union, Jackson Prayer Brigade, Discipleship Breakfast, Army Aviation Association of America

Warning: Objects in the windshield are closer than they appear. Four years ago it seemed like an eternity until the end of the Ratline—let alone First Class year and graduation. Without a doubt, it has been a long and hard four years—but thanks to my Brother Rats, Dykes, family, and friends who have supported me through it all—it has been four of the best years of my life.

To My Brother Rats: Thank you for always being there for me. We have the bond that will never be broken. It was this bond that would not let me quit no matter how tough things got here. While graduation may bring physical separation among us, the bond of Brother Rats will keep us together no matter how many miles or time zones separate us. To My Dykes: Thank you for your support and patience with me as you helped me through the Ratline. I never fully appreciated just how much you did for me until I had Rats of my own.

To My Rats: Congratulations, you've made it to the first checkpoint, but VMI is a marathon, and there's a whole lot of race left to run.Keep working out for Jesus!

1Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. —Hebrews 12:1-2

To My Family and Friends: I cannot imagine trying to make it through this place without your prayers and support.It is by God's grace—and your support—that I've made it through.

To My Lord and Savior Jesus Christ: I know I have not always been the most obedient servant, but when I have strayed, you have gently corrected me and brought me back to the correct path. It has been only by your grace that I have made it through these past four years.

DYKE 2006: Joshua N. Taylor
RAT 2012: Daniel Knick, Jordon Anderson

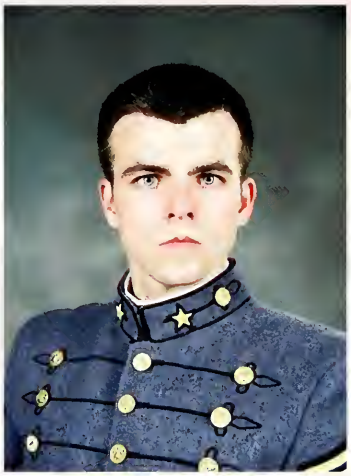
Kyle A. Johnson

"Fat J", "K Johns", "KY"
Purcellville, Virginia
International Studies and Arabic
Army

Football, Model Arab League, College Republicans, and the Big Red Club

Life at VMI was never easy. Each and everyday I was challenged physically, mentally, and emotionally more than I ever thought possible. Yet, through this experience I have learned that every great challenge comes with an even greater reward. I would like to first thank God for giving me the opportunity to join a proud tradition of VMI graduates, and for the strength to persevere over the obstacles placed before me. I would also like to thank my family for all of the love and support they have given me. Without you I would not be where I am today. Last but not least, I would like to thank all of my friends who have made this journey with me. To my roommates, Trent, Matt, Bradley, and Chris, you guys have made the last two years some of the best of my life. You guys are more than just my best friends but my brothers. To the S.S. boys, keep it classy. From the library to the bars, never forget all of the memories we have shared and the stories that we can never tell. To my football boys, George, Frank, Nick, Pat, Keith, Joe, and everyone else, the past four years have had their ups and downs, but playing with you guys has made it all worth it. For four years you guys have been my family and I will never forget that. Finally, to Alpha Company and the rest of my brother rats, I want to thank all of you for the memories and the experiences we have shared. We are by far the best class in barracks and in the history of VMI. If you ever need anything, I will always be there. To my rats, Aaron, CI, Franklin, Kevin, Justin, and Adrian, always remember who you are and what you represent. You have just begun a long journey, but I am confident that you will embrace the challenges before you and excel in everything you do. Never forget that you are measured by the adversity that you are able to endure and overcome. Never take a shortcut, because I assure you that the reward is worth the sacrifice. "Here's to cheating, stealing, fighting, and drinking. If you cheat, may it be a death; if you steal, may it be a heart; if you fight, may it be for your brother; and if you drink, may it be with me."

DYKE 2006: Jonathan T. Glasscock
RAT 2012: Aaron Trent



Christopher R. Johnston

"Chris"
Glen Allen, Virginia
Economics and Business
Air Force

CIC, SBD, Body Building club

Fun and VMI don't always mix, but this last year has been one of the best of my life. This year, my friendship with my Brother Rats has fully matured, and I began new ones with my rats. There have been a lot of new and interesting experiences this year and I am very grateful for it. As we inch closer to graduation, I realize that through all the pain this place has put us through, there have been just as many good times as there were bad and I will truly miss it. You really cannot get through this place without the help of others, and for that I would like to thank my roommates. I have lived with you guys since rat year and I loved every minute of it. Stephen, Leon, Ben, thank you. In addition I would like to thank my friends here at VMI, without you guys there would have been no point in sticking through here all this time. To my rats, keep your chins up and stick together, take any good opportunity that is presented to you, and don't drink in Barracks. In closing, I hope to remain in touch with my brother rats and I look forward to seeing you all up here on our first reunion.

DYKE 2006: William H. Maddox, IV
RAT 2012: Nick Gillogly, Xin Xie

Christopher S. Johnston

"Big Head"
Wheeling, West Virginia
Economics and Business
Air Force

Outdoors club, mixed martial arts club, 4th Class FTX Lane Walker, Guidon for Hotel

I really cannot believe that just a few years ago breakout, ring figure, and first class year seemed like they were a life time away. I need to first thank my parents and family for always pushing me to work hard. I wouldn't amount to anything with out my parents and family helping me along the way. The second groups of DUDES I need to thank are my room mates. I couldn't have asked for better guys to go through this hell with. The third group I need to thank is my friends here at VMI. Think about it, on 20 August 2005 we were all strangers. Fast forward to first class year I can confidently say that I would go to hell and back for any one of the guys or girls I have come to call my friends here at VMI. VMI is nothing like what the brochures and open houses will tell you, it is the biggest contradictions I have ever come across. It is flat out miserable at times. Who could forget the time I randomly contracted MRSA, was forced to spend 100+ hours of my life marching penalty tours, or how about when I got a blood clot in my leg which was in correctly diagnosed as a strained muscle, that went well. Most recently I broke my arm, doing something stupid, and ended up having to get a metal plate surgically implanted into my arm. Throughout it all I would say that I would not change where I am today for anything. Every thing I am today is a direct result of the experiences of my life, and some of the strangest memories of my life have come from this place. VMI is a place where 22 year olds cannot go out and party and come back half drunk 2 min before taps, stay up late drunk wrestling room mates, or play pranks, but who said I did any of that. RATS, stick by your friends here it is honestly the only way you will make it, it will make more sense when you're writing your own senior narrative. In the end the only way I would ever go through this place again is if I could do it with the same people I went through it with in the first place, but I know them and there is no way that would ever happen. Well that's all you get, I'm not playing any more. I'm out. DUDE LOVE.

DYKE 2006: John A. Anderson
RAT 2012: Chris L Hodges

Ian A. H. Kakumu

Canyon Country, California
Psychology
Army

Thanks Mother and Father for supporting me through these 4(+) years of hell...As well, I express my gratitude to those few true and remaining Brother Rats, and other classmen from '06, '07, and '08 that helped me travel that arduous road through this imbalanced and unprincipled institution. To those that have supported my journey, I say Godspeed in your future endeavors in leadership within the military or the business world. Remain true to your ethics, and your ideas of rationality, civility, and fairness. In other words do the opposite of what you have encountered and experienced at the "I." Chris Eaton (My Dyke); conquer and over come. Return safely to your wonderful and faithful wife. Kyle Richardson (My rat); Nothing can never take away what I have bestowed upon you. Never for a minute allow anyone tell you that nothing is impossible, nor accept nothing less. Fight and press on. And carry on the Dyke tradition, and always remain a cadet Private for Gods sakes...

Homo homini lupus
Ego sum lupus
Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

DYKE 2006: Christopher L. Eaton
RAT 2012: Kyle Richardson

Alexander K. Kari

"Karbear", "Spidermonkey", "Little Guy"
Hopewell Junction, New York
Civil Engineering
Army

Paintball, Bodybuilding, Rat Challenge, Big Brother

"We shall fight for the things which we have always carried nearest our hearts, for democracy, for the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments, for the rights and liberties of small nations, for a universal dominion of right by such a concert of free peoples as shall bring peace and safety to all nations and make the world at last free.

To such a task we can dedicate our lives and our fortunes, everything that we are and everything that we have, with the pride of those who know that the day has come when America is privileged to spend her blood and her might for the principles that gave her birth and happiness and the peace which she has treasured. God helping her, she can do no other." – Woodrow Wilson 1917

Mom, Dad, family, friends and Brother Rats, thank you for everything. I could not have made it without you. I love you all very much.

DYKE 2006: Jared B. Sheets
RAT 2012: Alex Firehammer, Walter Lee Vanaman

Erik M. Keirstead

"Erik the Red", "The Enforcer"
Shelton, Connecticut
History
Army

1st, 2nd, 3rd Corporal, Guide Sergeant, Platoon LT, Ranger Challenge, Psychology Club, Virginia Historical Society, CQRB 4 Square, Cannon Crew 2008-2009, The Council

To my roommates: Without you guys it would have been unbearable. Steve, mr. movie quotes with your unexplainable ability to drop knowledge on the entire Holy Grail movie. Matt, really didn't know what you were doing on your computer, hacking into mainframes and all. DOOM Virus. Tom aka Action Tom, if you cant do it, nobody can. Thanks for being there for me and helping to push me through the tough last semester, and especially putting up with me. However we all had a good time together. To my friends: Tom, Matt, Steve, Chris, Justin, Dana, and JT just to name a few. A simple thank you would not suffice. United in our rebellious acts throughout the years you have been the best friends one could ask for, and I wouldn't trade you for anyone else. As we stood our ground against the group they call SAD, laden down with all of their tactical gear, but we met them in battle nonetheless emerging victorious over their limitless numbers. Here's to our oath to ban and eventually annihilate the evil power known as the Palms and to the rise of McCoy's as the ultimate power in the universe. I will truly miss you all. To my Rats: What you learn here will serve you well in the future, the bonds you make will last an eternity, get to know your brother rats; you'll never know when they will be gone, and enjoy VMI while you can; you will find its more than you thought it was. Never give up. You will always be closest to success when you most want to quit. To my family, the most influential: Mom, Dad, Sarah, and Heidi, I couldn't have done it without your support; you have been with me through the process from the very beginning. I cannot describe to you how much I appreciate you standing next to me through all these years. I love you all very much. Good luck to everyone, wherever life may take you. I think it better to do right, even if we suffer in so doing, than to incur the reproach of our consciences and posterity. -Robert E. Lee

DYKE 2006: Jeffrey J. Butwell, Jr.
RAT 2012: Forrest Miller

Alan W. Keith

"Zowdle"
Portsmouth, Virginia
Arabic
Marine Corps

Emergency Response Team, Rat Challenge, New Cadet Military Training, Bulldog, Post Hospital Shuttle Staff, 80 mile New Market March.

In the four years I have spent at this illustrious institute I have accomplished other things than taking care of feet. I made many lifelong friends. On the fourth stoop in room 408 "The Ocho" then the third stoop in "The Three Thirty-Four Express" where Mike Robertson, Ian Kakumu, Conor Franklin, and I decided on getting additional roommates, specifically a hedgehog named Ron and a beta fish called Master. From there Steve Lloyd joined us on the second stoop in "The Two Thirty-Four Connection" and brought a new level of dysfunction to our lives. Without the tutelage of Steve I would have never learned how to run the block. I would also have been able live as a free man for more of my second class year because I never would have gotten in trouble. Unfortunately there was just two much awesomeness in that room and we split up, except for Ron, he and I stuck together. I arrived in "The One Sixteen Emporium" the same room my dykes lived in. I sat in my dyke's old desk and slept in his old rack. Joining me for the final year was Dennis "Hankeytown" Habersang, Jacob Ammon, and Charles Wickersham, my co-dyke who also slept and worked in the same space as his dyke. Sadly we lost our good friend Master to old age during first class year. Ron remained a bastion of hope and prosperity to the rest of the class though. All the adventures and fun I have had at this prison of a college are due to the friends I made. The greatest thing I will take away from VMI is not the ability to make fun of people, act inappropriate and crude in public, or hide my breaking as many rules as possible. The thing I will remember and love this place the most for is my Brother Rats. To all my BRs, thanks for the good times and thank God we're out of here.

DYKE 2006: Joseph W. Brown III
RAT 2012:

Austin C. Keller

Midlothian, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Air Force

Club Basketball, Soccer, Lacrosse, Big Brother, Post Tour Guide, Engineering Club

To be or not to be that is the question. Or after enduring four years of VMI the real question is why did I come here? Often while waking up every day at 06:45 or marching aimlessly around the front side of barracks for no reason, I would ask myself what am I doing here. College for 99.9% of the American population is a time of freedom, creative thought, and socializing, while for many of us here it's quite the opposite. VMI offers a narrow minded education enforced by a strict code of rules that constantly contradict themselves. It's a giant Catch 22. You sleep on a hay, get boned, and have a dyke. Life is far from Hollywood's view of college. There are no toga parties only sweat parties, and the food well it's definitely a mess. However, with every bad there must be some good and with VMI that is very true. My roommates Bridger and Alex, I couldn't have asked for better friends and I wish you both the best in your time after VMI. You both deserve it and make sure you guys keep in touch. My rats Will and Mac good luck with the rest of your cadetship and never lose sight of graduation. Both of you have been excellent rats and I wish you the best of luck. To Big Daddy Walmsley I hope you can make it back to VMI and graduate. These last few semesters haven't been the same without you. So finally, as I walk through Jackson arch for the last time I can only hope this great challenge truly becomes a lifetime reward. If not, I would please like a refund.

DYKE 2006: Marc L. Antonelli
RAT 2012: Will Smith, Mac Christian

Rhys A. Keller

Gainesville, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Air Force

Alpha Company Platoon Lieutenant 08-09, Body Building Club ACIC 07-08, Cadet Investment Group Fall 06

I was born in Linden, Virginia in 1987 to Andrea and Karl Keller at home with the help of a midwife. We soon moved to Gainesville, Virginia where my sister Petra and her husband Elias currently live. My brother, Thane '07, commissioned into the Army upon graduation from VMI and is currently serving our country in Iraq. His wife Sarah lives at their home in Wahiawa, HI and can't wait for his return. I love them to death and wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for them. I loved building things with my hands and using my imagination growing up. I remember sitting for hours outside building fortresses for ants with dirt and construction paper while I was little. In High School I became heavily involved with computers and spent my days building websites and learning various drawing and programming applications. I was fortunate enough to be able to take helicopter pilot lessons for roughly a year while I was a junior. Flying was an amazing experience that I can only hope to pursue again in the future. Following my brother and father in suit, I got my motorcycle license and enjoyed many near-death experiences. Having a father that took summer classes at VMI and a brother as a current cadet, I knew the type of person VMI would help me become through the many hardships and spartan conditions. With no possibility of majoring in Architecture, I decided on Civil & Environmental Engineering (C.E.E.). I met with the current C.E.E. department head, Colonel Buckner, who gave me better insight into the curriculum and lifestyle I was about to undergo. Truth be told, I had absolutely no idea what I was getting myself into! The ratline was an intense regimen of discipline, authority, caveman style living conditions, and all too frequent pushups. However, my dyke John was an excellent source of knowledge and I hold the utmost respect for him to this day. Most importantly, I thank Jesus Christ for blessing my life so much. I've always had more than enough and too little to complain about.

DYKE 2006: John T. Fox
RAT 2012: Mark Schumacher, Paul Lingamfelter

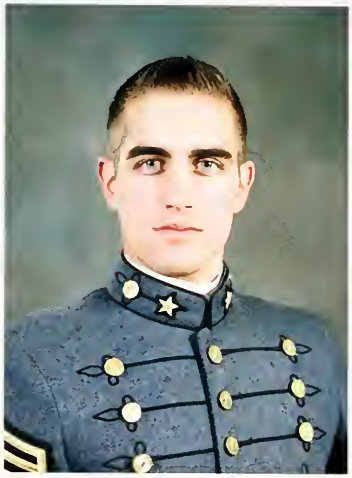
Alexander G. B. Kelley

"Butters", "KO Kelley"
Mobile, Alabama
Mechanical Engineering
Navy

DUDE LOVE (Hollywood Hotel), 2nd CPL, MSGT, 1st PLT, Honor Court Vice President, Triathlon Club, Competitive Boxing, Some Engineering Societies, National Honor Society

First, THANK YOU to everybody else who has been there for me and helped me make it through here. Foremost to God, He has given me the strength to press on through all difficult times: A special thanks to my Mom, I love you, you have given the best advice and wisdom that I would be lost without; Dad; Drew; Carson; Sarah; Charlie; Grandmommy; DeeDee, Papa , Meme, and everybody else, Thank you! The INSITUTE. It is hard to write just the right words to describe my four years here. But in a way that is the beauty of this school, only those that graduate truly know what it means to wear the ring. This place is truly remarkable, whether you want to believe it or not. It takes immature high school seniors and transforms them into something great. Citizen Soldiers. I truly believe that after our 4 years here we are ready to take on the world. To the guys on the COURT, it has been a pleasure. CADRE is an experience I will never forget. Coming back two weeks early from Summer Furlough every year for HELL WEEK was always worth it. I always loved it. To all you Master Sergeants, enjoy it while you can, you have the best rank in the Corps. To MY RATS, study hard, and embrace everything your Dykes have taught you. Yall have done a great job, continue to do so. Don't let a second of this place pass you by, or you will spend your whole life trying to get it back. Lastly I owe the biggest Thanks and Memories to MY FRIENDS, MY BROTHERS. I will not say goodbye because I know we will see each other again. And don't have to name you all because you know who you are. I do need to say I could have NEVER made it through this place without you guys, I can't even start to mention all of the crazy and wild times we have had together, from driving to Goshen 3rd Class year to going to Cancun together for our last Spring Break, I will never forget those memories or you guys. Our Friendships are what has made this place so special to me. You are all first class Gents. Thank you for being such great friends.

DYKE 2006: Phillip O. Lundberg
RAT 2012: Anderson Caldwell



Joshua C. Kenny

"Crakpipe"
Prince Frederick, Maryland
Biology
Air Force

There were numerous periods during my stay at the "I" when I simply wanted to give up. I think the school can drive you toward such a mentality. I could not have confronted the challenges without my most immediate family: my close BRs. These friendships go beyond shared experiences, though some are worth mention: summers at Nan's house, spring FTX at the Greenbrier, partying with the Buss family in Hollywood, gravity-lounging, sleepy Hungarians, listening parties, library rubber-band wars, band-room jam sessions, grandma Capuozzo's afternoon gnocchi, smuggling Dewars onboard, the Monday morning of ring-figure week, Oxford pub crawls, bitty-wars, club New Science, playing 'racball' with the rats. Thanks to all the BRs that were with me during those occasions. My family provided another leg of support that kept me going through the year, and expressing my thanks in this short narrative is hardly adequate. To mom: your goodie packages were always appreciated, no matter how quick they were eaten. To pops: the talks always helped, and they still do. Finally, to my rat Tim: You were all excellent rats and I'm confident you'll be the same as cadets. Always remember what's important by the end of the day: your sanity, your family, the people you call friends, and the choices that lead you to earn a VMI diploma. For everyone else—I wish you enough. "I exist as I am; that is enough." —WW." Let sleep not close your eyes..."—Pythagoras" In the name of the best within you, do not sacrifice this world to those who are its worst. In the name of the values that keep you alive, do not let your vision of man be distorted by the ugly, the cowardly, the mindless in those that have never achieved his title. Do not lose your knowledge that man's proper estate is an upright posture. Do not let your fire go out, spark by irreplaceable spark, in the hopeless swamps of the approximate. Do not let the hero in your soul perish, in the lonely frustration for the life you deserved. Check your road and the nature of your battle.

DYKE 2006: Jonathan C. Nagle
RAT 2012: Tim Johnson

Shane H. Keys

Cocoa, Florida
German
Army

DYKE 2006: Joel A. Burger
RAT 2012: Dan Moerder

Jonathan J. Kim

"Kim JJ", "Lil' Kim"
Haymarket, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Navy

Club Soccer, VMI Theatre, Regimental Band, and BOMB Photographer.

To my Brother Rats, I had a great 4 years here at VMI and I have a lot of great memories being with you all. To my fellow Band Company Brother Rats, we made it through all the way to graduation. Can't believe it's already here. I still remember Hell week when we were all clueless and just plain dumb. Throughout the years we gained a lot of knowledge and had a lot of fun together. Definitely won't forget the time when we marched through the rain and wind at the Cherry Blossom festival, all the fun time in Florida and the bus ride back, the trip to California to march in the Rose Bowl, and fun time we had at Mardi gras.

To my fellow CE Brother Rats, we somehow manage to cut the structure, go through the "Bott line", and go through the long night working on modules and projects at the 600 level of NEB. I could not have gotten here without struggling through it all with you guys.

To my roommates, Pat, I kept our dykes' word on being your conscience. It was great rooming with you for 3 years and making fun of you with Bryce and the Rats. I hope you find a great job and keep on living toward your dream. To Bryce, definitely had a great time rooming with you for 2 years, had some arguments but that's what we do. We'll definitely keep in touch and hope everything goes well working with "poop" water.

To my rats, I had a great time with you guys, can't believe time has flown by this fast; sooner you'll know it you'll be getting your rings and have rats. To Min, hope things go well with the Army and don't roll down the hill of science, stick with CE. To Andy, hope things go well with the Air Force and keep on practicing with your guitar and singing, you definitely have a talent. To James, hopefully you'll be able to come back next year and finish out strong. To Stephen, you know the rules just follow them and don't make dumb mistakes. Hopefully, you guys keep up the Dyke traditions that our Dykes started.

Finally, I want to thank my Lord, Jesus Christ and helping me through VMI and get this far. "Do Your Best and God will do the Rest"

DYKE 2006: Brandon R. Walker
RAT 2012: Min Jung, Andrew Wong

Michael J. Kim

"Mastakim", "Kim-pong", "Sleeping Panda"
Snellville, Georgia
Chemistry
Army

Ring Figure Committee, Bodybuilding Club

It has been a long and strenuous four years which I will never forget. Luckily, I've had the support and counsel from members of a company that many believe to have a Napoleonic complex. Nevertheless, I couldn't be more proud and I wouldn't have it any way. I'm going to miss the nights uptown, eating meals together and the regular smoke and joke sessions. I was particularly lucky to have met great roommates my Rat year. Maintaining strong bonds and the comedic relief throughout our cadetship was not only a feat, but a blessing. To the Rats of 109, ya'll are the best. You never cease to make me smile and only wish ya'll the best in your cadetships. Never forget what we taught you, and always continue to strive to meet the 'standards' that we've set for you. I leave ya'll with one last nugget of wisdom a wise cadet once told me. If you sleep 12 hours a day, you're only at VMI for half the time. Brother Rats, Class of 2009, and Delta Company, I can't wait to see what the future holds for each of us. I know we're all going to be successful and I wish everyone the best of luck in whatever direction you head. Peace and love.

DYKE 2006: Jedidiah T. Tan
RAT 2012: Chance McConnell

Benjamin F. Kimsey

"Finninator"
Harrisonburg, Virginia
Psychology
Army

General Committee, New Cadet Military Training, Company Cadre, Pre-Law Society.

I want to take this opportunity to thank those who have helped me become the person I am today: To my brother David, thank you for being a role model and a big brother when I've needed you. No amount of life can make up for what we share-"kimsey's never die". To My Father, thank you for always making me earn it and for the support you have given me. To my mother, thank you for following your passions. To Maclean, I'm so proud of you and Ari, you'll always be my little sister. I love you and will always be there. To Thomas "teekers" you are more than my little brother, you are my friend and I thank you for your insight, imagination and passion. To Jason, Hussien, and Kevin, thank you for your intellect and your laughter. To Joe, we've been through allot, look at us now, thanks for still being around and for your unrelenting pursuit of knowledge. To Stu, thank you for your support and your confidence. To James Nipe, thank you for giving me the freedom to have an imagination. To Jarod Conrad, thank you for being a leader. To MSG Kale, thank you for pushing me, challenging me, and allowing me to make mistakes. To the Brook and the Miller family, thank you for believing in me. To My dyke, Mikey and Mamma Yeo, thank you for love and support. To Dave Radke, thank you for never failing me, never holding back, and always being there, you are a brother to me and I would not be here without you. To Brycenon, you are the best default roommate ever, thank you for your sense of humor and your wild and "kooky" ways-"I wuff you too Bryce, I wuff you too." To Dave "Schlaser" one day you will be god. To Rick and Nick, one day the world will be yours. The rest of Delta Dogs-awa To Lux and John, thank you for your support, your drive, and your insight-I love you guys. To the class of 09' thank you for all that you have done and what you will be.

All of you are the reason I am here and will be my motivation to excel in the future.

DYKE 2006: Michael C. Yeo
RAT 2012: Paul Jokiel

Jared M. Klajnbart

Colorado Springs, Colorado
Biology
Army

3 years NCAA Track and Field, 1 year Club Rugby Team, Fellowship of Christian Athletes President (FCA)

Chelsie M. V. Kosecki

"Chels"
Flemington, New Jersey
Biology, Chemistry
Air Force

VMI Bomb (3,2,1, Editor), Navigator, College Republicans, American Chemical Society, Newman Club, NCAA Rifle, Glee Club

Derek J. Kosecki

Flemington, New Jersey
Chemistry
Navy

Track and Field

" If you obey all the rules, you miss all the fun" - Katherine Hepburn.

It has been an adventure I shall never forget. From matriculation day, hell week, ring figure, and now graduation, I have made some pretty amazing friends through the hardships VMI throws at you. To first and foremost God - I wouldn't have made it without you. My parents, thank you for the prayers, the visits, and the care packages. My dyke, Ms. Heather Marie Miras- you taught me to not only be a respectable cadet but you also became my best friend. I love you to death. Jillian- I will always remember your "dance." You are my inspiration to be a good person. You deserve the best in life. Thank you for all of your hugs and for your patience. Michelle - I will always remember our summers in Lexington. We have so much in common - From Lacoste to "glamorous" to taco bell. I love you girl. Holly- Oh dear. My northerner. I will always remember walking into our room at 5am from studying and seeing you on your bed just laughing because you also know how I feel. You are such a determined worker. Stay that way. Mandi - I will always remember our crazy thanksgiving break we had in the city. I'm so glad we got to know eachother my last year here. Stay out of trouble! Thomas and James - You two are MY BOYS. I love you to death. You made rifle trips and Sarge less painful to deal with. All my other rifle boys - finish out your term here and stay strong! Zoe- you come from an amazing dyke line. I couldn't be more prouder of you. You stuck it through like a champ. Remember what you want out of life and make it your goal. Don't let anything come in the way of that. I better be here on May 16th, 2012 for your graduation! All the other rats of 14o: I know you can make it through. Just remember what you came here for. All my other friends - keep in touch! Te Amo! XOXO

DYKE 2006: Timothy D. Greer
RAT 2012: Pat Jackman, Bryan Reno

DYKE 2006: Heather Marie Miras
RAT 2012: Zoe Ramsey

DYKE 2006: David K. Bhatta
RAT 2012: Steve Lassiter

Nicholas M. Kriz

"Primus", "Cap", "V-Rap"
Chester, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Air Force

Club Soccer, Club Basketball, Hollywood Hotel (Dude Love)

Hello. First I want to start out by thanking my family for getting me this far. For all four years you all have stuck by my side and made sure I made it through. If it was not for your un-dying love and support, I would never have gotten to where I am today. Second, I would like to thank God for giving me the strength and courage to keep on keeping on day by day. Lastly, I would like to thank all the guys who have made VMI a great experience. Now that is out of the way we can get to the good stuff...VMI, the stuff that men are made out of. Everyone who graduates from here knows what it is that VMI graduates have...that certain swagger that sets us apart from the rest. After getting through four years of this place I hold many parts of VMI dear to my heart, but none so much as the friends I have made here over the course of my cadetship. The Barracudas are the prime example of this. You guys are my best friends for life (BFF) and I will never forget you all. Whether it was sitting around the stoops messing around, talking during formation, getting drunk downtown, partying it up, or getting down in Cancun, it has been quite the ride. You guys have honestly made VMI what it is for me and I want to thank all of you for that.

Andrew M. Krumm

"krummcake", "krumbie"
Greenbackville, Virginia
Economics and Business
Army

Ranger Challenge, Big Brother Big Sister, Stonewall Guard Drill Team

My four years here at the Institute have been trying, yet rewarding. Through the support of my God, family, friends, and my brother rats I made it through. The friends I have made over my time here, are very close to me and I consider them as part of my family. Alumni are very fond of saying that VMI is: "The worst place to be, but the best place to be from." I tend to disagree with the first part. I have enjoyed my time as a cadet. The four year experience as a cadet brings about a certain uniqueness that none of my peers in other colleges have the opportunity to experience nor even begin to understand. My time spent here has made available to me a wide variety of experiences and opportunities from marching in Governor Kaine's Inauguration parade and the more recent Presidential Inauguration as well as providing me the opportunities to refine skills which will serve me well in my career both in the Army and the civilian sector. The fun and excitement of Ring Figure and the tedious turmoil of the ratline all are lasting memories to me. Now that I have my own rats, I have grown to appreciate all that my dyke did for me and work he put in to help me succeed. As I leave and enter into the Army, I feel confident that I have the tools necessary to be successful. I take great pride in that fact that I am and always will be a member of the class of 2009. I will always hold my brother rats close to my heart. To future classes I say, stay the course and never give up. It's all about the attitude you take toward everything. Play the game we call VMI, play it well and you will be very successful in your future.

Benjamin G. Kyler

"General", "Ocho", "Cyclone", "B-Dizzle"
Laurel Springs, New Jersey
Mechanical Engineering
Navy

Officer of the Guard Association, Ring Figure Committee, Mess Hall Committee, 8th Corporal, 3rd Platoon Guide SGT, SAME Treasurer, ASE, ASME, ASHRAE

They all said that time here will fly by and before you know it you are a first classmen writing a 500 word personal narrative; well I can honestly say they were right about that. Four years summarized by an engineer in 500 words, this should be interesting. I guess I will start with shout outs. I am definitely going to have to start with my Rat roommate, Stan. We have been through everything together, even really awkward sleeping arrangements. I couldn't have asked for a better friend and brother to go through it all with, that also includes that awkward sleeping arrangement second class year. That brings me to my other roommates. I can honestly say without a doubt that I have the best room in barracks because of you two. Even during the times of Jarrett desperately seeking my attention for no reason at all or Josh's unrelenting bashing on the SWO community, I wouldn't have asked for anybody else for these past three years. To my Delta Brothers, you are the reason that I came back after every furlough, just remember we better be doing a Bay house week in the coming summers, Dave. To my brother rats, this place is made better by all of you and thank you for all you have done. To my rats, I am proud of what you have done so far, but there is so much more to do. This place will eat you up and spit you out, and it is your brother rats that will ALWAYS be there to help you stand back up. Remember that. So much has happened these past four years from trips to DC, to those days at the Bay house, to those nights at Hunan's or the Palm's, to those never ending impressions of our Professors late at night in NEB, to Ring Figure and the list goes on. Well brother rats we have one more step, one more memory left to attain here at the Institute and I can say beyond a shadow of a doubt that I am honored and privileged to go through it with you, the Class of 2009.

DYKE: Andrew R. Yeskie
RAT 2012: Anderson Caldwell, Eric Russo

DYKE 2006: Johnathan S. Kennedy
RAT 2012: Zackary Boyce, Robert Young

DYKE 2006: Matthew J. McGonegle
RAT 2012: Gregory Lum, Timothy Coveyou

Carrie A. Lauderdale

Memphis, Tennessee
English
Army

Rifle team, Glee club, theatre

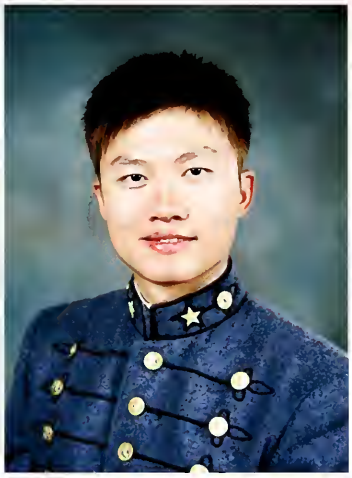
For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well-Psalms 139: 13-14

Through the hardest times I have failed to realize that God has something great for me. Obtaining a Bachelor in Arts is a miracle in itself. I should have died a million different times in a million different ways, but by the grace of God I have been delivered. All my life I have faced hardship after hardship. However, God has brought me through once again. Through the experience of VMI I have determined that God purposely places me in tough situation because he knows that I can handle the pressure.

Right now, I am finally seeing the plan that God has for me. I need to take my bad experiences and be a beacon to those who feel like they cannot make it. As I look ahead at the next phase of life, I am a bit scared. Change is never taken with a grain of salt; however, I know that if I stay with the Lord I cannot go wrong.

Looking back, VMI has not been easy, but it has taught me to have patience no matter what the situation. Along with that, I have built a family of friends here that I would not trade for the world. You all have impacted my life in some way and I thank each and every person that took the time to be my friend. To all my friends that I have made and those host families that have taken me under their wing, thank you. To mom, I am sorry you had to go through so much after I left. Thank you for making yet another sacrifice in order for me to better myself. Words cannot explain how much I love you. To my roommate Lauren, I'll miss you girl. You are going to move mountains, but in the process do not forget to smile. Most of all, I would thank God for my cuppycake. You have changed my life more than you know and I love you with all my heart.

DYKE 2006: Jessica L. Fulton
RAT 2012:



Hsin-Sheng Lee

"Shawn"
Kaohsuing, Taiwan
Mechanical Engineering
Navy

International club, Engineering club

it has been a great experience being at VMI for four years. Four years ago, I was excited at the moment to step in VMI, and now I know I am even more excited to graduate from here, with pride, faith and honor. VMI is a place full of passion and makes one a stronger person. During my cadetship, I remember I put so much effort into everything because I understand this is my best opportunity to become a successful person. To be honest, I sacrificed a lot here, but I believed one day I will appreciate this place, and everything I sacrificed is going to be worth more than I could've ever imagined. Like everybody else, I am a young man with an imagination and big dreams. Before I came to this place, I thought those dreams were just dreams, but now I am confident in making them a reality, to catch opportunities, and furthermore, to create hope. VMI taught me to be passionate, to be ambitious and most importantly, VMI made me believe in myself. I thank my country, Taiwan, which gave me this tremendous privilege to study at VMI. Thank you, Mom and Dad, you are always there for me, and all my instructors and friends at VMI. I would not have had such a beautiful experience without you. At last, thank you, God, I believe in you and you always have the best things prepared for me.

DYKE 2006: Yau-Ren Kuo
RAT 2012: Cheng-Wei Kuo

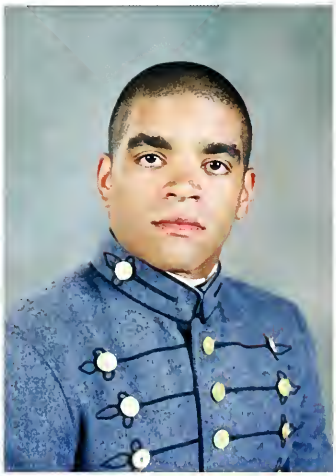
James M. Leenhouts

"Pinky"
Fairfax, Virginia
History
Marine Corps

NCAA Rifle Team

I look forward to the end of VMI but not without looking back on all the good times I've had with my Brother Rats. My rat roommates, co-dikes, room halfway-to-hell, teammates (Thomas and Chelsie), and Band Co. made it all worth it. It wasn't the intensely advanced rigors of an exceedingly demanding program of leadership training, time management, and arduous physical torment that has shaped who I am today but the experiences I've shared with these people.

DYKE 2006: Andrew C. Ihnen
RAT 2012: Logan Jones



Derrick S. Leland

"D-Smooth", "D-Nice", "D-Lee", "D"
Prince George, Virginia
Economics and Business
Army

Football, Pre-Law Society

First I would like to thank my parents Teresa and Charles for their unwavering support over the last 4 years; without you, there would be no me. To my Grandparents Marie, CW, Shirley and Columbus, thank you for the love. For all of my family members who shared their support and wisdom, thank you. To the roommates of 416-Hamid, Bryce, and Josh-who helped me get through some tough times, thanks fellas. To my homeboy Mike...we made it through some rough times bro, but we're both better for it. I know you big-leagued us a lot, but we forgive you, just don't forget about the little people when you make it. Of course, Mr. and Mrs. Roberts for the home cooked meals that made me forget about VMI for a while. The guys who I respect the most and will miss most about this place – Boyd T., Ant., Mike, AJ, Joeloe, Dennis, Jose, Mark, Edwin, Hamid, and Jasper – Thanks boys. All the crazy nights in Blacksburg, Radford, Harrisonburg, Charlottesville, and Richmond that I can't remember, with some of the best friends I won't soon forget. Always Finish Strong - Perago Validus

Christopher P. Lilly

Tazewell, Virginia
International Studies
Army

Charles P. Lincoln

"Chuck", "Up-Chuck"
Burke, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Army

VMI Rugby, VMI Timber Framers (CIC 2008-2009)

To my rat, be easy. Don't drink and drive, wrap it up, and if you get in a fight, you must win. Take what you have learned from the dykes and run with it. To my Family (Host family included): I would not have made it through VMI without your unwavering support. To Mr. and Mrs. Cross, Walker, Grier, and Sydney, I still remember the first day I met you. After church we went back to your house we watched the movie "Jack" and I fell asleep until dinner and cake. You have all helped me through so much and you were truly a blessing to me. To my parents, I could always feel the support. It always was an amazing feeling to hear you say you were proud of me. And to my brother rats; the food could have been worse, parades could have been longer, weekends could have been less plentiful, BRC could have been earlier, the dark ages could have been longer, and there could have been even more pointless formations. So all in all, the time spent at VMI wasn't horrible and I'm glad to have spent four great years with all of you.

DYKE: 2006: Anthony J. Oliver
RAT 2012:

DYKE 2006: Isaac B. Cecil
RAT 2012:

DYKE 2006: Bradley B. Bascope
RAT 2012: Brandon Smith

Gregory E. Lippiatt

"Sir Gregory", "Lord of Lypiatt"
York, Pennsylvania
English and History
Army

VMI Rugby Club; Hotel Ranker; Second Battalion Commander; VMI English Society; Sounding Brass, Editor-in-Chief; Philosophy Club; College Bowl Team Excelsior; Marathon Club VMI Theatre

Like most cadets, my reasons for coming to VMI were very different from my reasons for staying. I held idealistic beliefs that VMI was an egalitarian utopia where justice was strict but fair, and where traditions endured because to compromise for the sake of outside opinion. And as a Rat I refused to believe otherwise, despite what my dykes or others said. Over my four years here, however, I have often run into hypocritical double standards upheld for those with influential family connections or those deemed essential to the image of the Institute, whether on the athletic field or in demographical studies; allowing them to avoid the more distasteful aspects of the cadet experience. I have seen traditions like the Ratline and New Market watered down for the sake of political correctness. I have seen academics and club sports get short shrift in favour of expansive NCAA programs. I will treasure forever the memories of bizarre experiences that were only possible within the environment of Barracks: crazy rugby trips, the Bennie Hill broom, animal calls after Taps, and other less printable incidents. As eager as I am to graduate and move on, I cannot shake the anxiety I feel about not seeing my Brother Rats daily. The security of knowing that there are hundreds of people within a two-minute walk for whom I would take a bullet and who would take one for me is one I highly doubt I would have found anywhere else. I also doubt I would elsewhere have found the ability to look at myself in the mirror with such frank honesty of self-assessment. If one chooses to engage the challenge, the loneliness and constant frustration of the Ratline serve as a wonderful crucible to learn of what one is made. The opportunities I have found in the classroom, on the rugby pitch, have strengthened and confirmed that exploration of self. Thus I find myself indebted to the people that made them possible: Mello, Tammelin, and Costello, my roommates Aaron, Gordon, Jed, and Adam, Phil, the rugby team. Mike: it's been a pleasure to be your dyke. Godspeed to you all.

DYKE 2006: Kirk M. Steiner
RAT 2012: Michael Gwinn

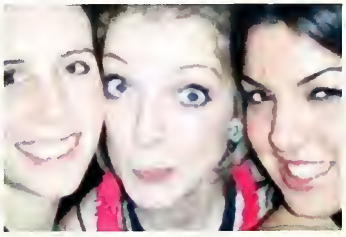
Michelle E. Lukenbill

"DaLukes", "Luke"
Gainesville, Virginia
Psychology
Air Force

College Republicans, Navigators, The Bomb, EMT, Trap and Skeet, Equestrian Club, 4 year private

As I sit here writing this, the countdown until freedom stands at 48 days and a wake up, or roughly 1159 hours and I can finally start to picture the finish line. Up until this point I have not had a single hour of my time wasted marching PTs (or working them off), being on confinement or ever having a special that resulted in anything larger than 3 demos. You can call this bragging but I like to think of it as the perks of being a four year private and staying under the radar. Four years have passed and with this start of this unique experience on August 20, 2005 I have since been surrounded by some of the most amazing people in my life. To my roommates: Holly, I love you dearly and each year rooming with you has brought more happiness and laughter into my life. Mandi, I hold a slight grudge that you escaped a year early but the times spent in Irvington, watching polo or being invited to "the gun show" will never be forgotten. Chels, the Waldorf Astoria, smudge dance and trips to Annapolis don't even begin to describe all of our amazing times and uncontrollable laughs we've had. Jill, you too left me early but I know that I will continue to see you down the road. To my certain someone: Shooting you in the back at paintball was the smartest thing I have ever done. You have continued to be there for me through the ups and down, this is just the beginning; stm. To my BRs, who picked me up when I was down and made the experiences worth it, you will always have a place in my heart. To my family for your continued support and never ending encouragement, I have always had you all to count on. To my dyke, Elise, I do not know how you tolerated me with you being a second class dyke but I am so fortunate to have been your rat. Thank you for everything. Sam (Joe Dirt) and the girls of 146, don't let this place get you-down, the end will be here sooner than you think. Remember to "test your own limits and keep going". Make us proud ladies.

DYKE 2006: Elise G. Jones
RAT: Samantha Jones



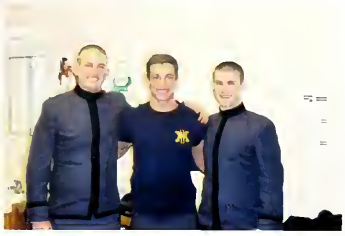
K. Barrett Luxhoj

"Lux"
Richmond, Virginia
International Studies
Navy

General Committee, Class of 2009 Vice President, Division I Men's Soccer Team, VMI Club Hockey Team VMI Pre-Law Society Vice President, Big South Athletic Conference's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, VMI's College Republicans

When speaking to strangers about my experience, I regard VMI as a place where cadets give up a lot of comfort in order to gain much more in the future. The latter is yet to be determined for me, but I am confident that the lessons I learned through the hard times at the Institute will prepare me for success down the road. I owe a lot to my peers. I am a firm believer that one cannot make it through this place on their own resolve. I wanted to thank my Brother Rats for the opportunity to represent them on the General Committee. Additionally, playing soccer at VMI ruled the majority of my time, but I do not know what I would do without the all the stories that I share with my BRs on the team. Jose, Greg, and Steve, we played hard, we played proud, and we left it all on the field. After squatting in the same room, down from stoop to stoop, my roommates and I have grown from three random rats to three best friends. Gotts and Masta Kim, I thank you both for putting up with all my ridiculous jokes and jargon along way. You each helped me through the twists and turns of the institute by finding a ways to keep me smiling. I cannot express how much our friendship over the years has meant to me. I am confident that there are no other guys that I could call better friends. James and Cameron, I wanted to thank you both for being the best Rats a Dyke could have. Our time was not marked by answering specials, trips to the RDC, or GC send ups. Instead, we were always able to have a good time in the room and I tried to pass on as much of my knowledge possible. I brag about how successful each of you will be become in the future. I know each of you will accomplish your goals and you will keep the dyke line going strong. Never forget your roots. In the end, many consider a cadetship at VMI to be a road less traveled. If so, it is a road that does not last long. My time at the Institute has flown by and I have made many a memory along the way, and with those great memories came even better friends.

DYKE 2006: Thomas G. Upton
RAT 2012: James Goodwillie, Cameron Murray



Patrick A. Maloney

Silver Spring, Maryland
Economics
Army

NCAA Lacrosse

Nicholas B. Matson

Sacramento, California
Psychology
Air Force

Basketball

I want to thank all the amazing people that helped me get through this long walk of life. My Mom, my Dad, my sisters, my teammates, my friends back home, the great friends I made here, the coaching staff, and everyone else who was a part of my life throughout these four years. Although I experienced some of the worst times here I also enjoyed some of the best. I learned lessons here that I never could have anywhere else. I don't know where the road will take me, but I do know that it will be a spontaneous and exciting ride. If there were any words of inspiration that I could always turn to, it was that of Steve Jobs: "If you live everyday as if it was your last, then one day you'll most certainly be right". Good luck to everyone.

Niels A. Madsen

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvannia
Civil & Environmental Engineering
Army

Wrestling (4), Rugby (3,2,1), German Club (1), CEA (1), PVT (4,3,2,1)

As I am sitting here at San Diego Naval Base thinking what to possibly write, the only thoughts that really cross my mind are that I should have tried to commission in the navy and that thank God I'm not in Lexington at the moment. VMI is quite unique, you hate it when you're there, but as soon as you're gone, you apparently love it (this might take me a few years). A lot about this system and the way things are run here is a big farce, but it teaches you how to survive and even excel when it's meant to keep you down and run you out. Although I wouldn't take anything to repeat the last four years again, I will not trade that experience or the friends that I have made here for the world. To my rats, Sean and Nun, you have come leaps and bounds from where you started the year off, remember never to take this place seriously (except your academics). My roommates, thanks for sticking with me through the times, it hasn't always been a cake walk but you all were there. To the rugby team, especially my BRs on it and Coach Howe, thanks for keeping me sane and giving me something to look forward to almost every day. Most importantly I would like to thank my family for all their support over the years (dad, now you finally get that pay raise). It's been a blast, but it's good to finally see the light at the end of the tunnel.

DYKE 2006: Jesse E. Hills
RAT 2012:

DYKE 2006: Nick Dowdle
RAT 2012: Steve Hargrove

DYKE 2006: Brian Lennon
RAT 2012: Sean Ayres, Pattanun Chanpiwat

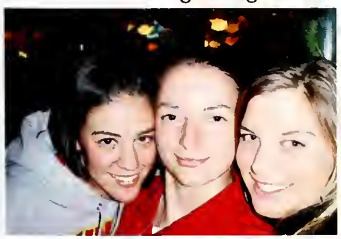
Ashley R. McCabe

"Mccabear", "Ash", "Asher"
Bisbee, Arizona
Mathematics
Marine Corps

German Club

VMI and the Marines have shown me that "if it ain't rainin' we ain't trainin'," and that if there is free time in your schedule that you must fill it with any possible thing that you can. The last four years in this place have been quite an experience and one that has made me a very...different person. The years here have given me the opportunity to make great friends and I will never forget the experiences that have made me that "...different person." The bonds I have forged with the people here will always be with me and I will never forget the friends that I have made here. To my family I want to give thanks for all the support that I have gotten from that sector. I know that the life path that I have chosen is not what you all had expected but I appreciate the support I want to give special thanks to my Uncle, because if it weren't for him I wouldn't have ever made it to this place and would not be in the good place I am right now. I would not have ever made it as far as I have without his support. A "shout out" to my rat roommate, who remained my roommate throughout our time together. And to all my co-dykes, we had awesome times together, ones I will never forget. To all my boys in "Duuude Looove" Hotel, I don't think I would have made it if not for all the good humor and support y'all gave me... you know who you are. To my rat, Szu-Ning, all I can say is stick in there and don't let the institute drag you down. Make good friends, they will get you through it, and do what you need to do to get out of here on time. "Even if you are on the right track, you will get run over if you just sit there." The Institute is a great place to be FROM but at the time not a great place to BE. But you never will forget the people.

DYKE 2006: Erin Grabowsky
RAT 2012: Szu-Ning Chang



Adam J. McClish

Akron, Ohio
Psychology
Air Force

Bodybuilding Club, RAT Challenge, Special Actions Detachment, Mixed Martial Arts Club

I guess it is the people I have met here that have impacted me most. For starters, my dykes taught me more about life and VMI than I ever could have learned on my own. They were like the big brothers I never had. My rats, who helped me understand what my dyke said when he told me "Having rats makes me not want to have children." My Mom and Dad who supported me with anything I needed, and endured those 12 hour round-trip drives for three years. Rankers...who made me vividly understand what a brown noser truly is. Finally and most importantly, my Brother RAT. My Brother RAT who were with me as I struggled with through the ratline, who picked me up after being crushed by the latest ex-girlfriend, who stumbled back drunk with me from town, who snuck into frat parties in civies with me, who were with me when I got my ring, who laughed at me while I was marching PTs, who helped say happy 21st birthday to our fellow BRs in our own special way, who had the decency to find every weak spot and insecurity I had and exploit it, who sat with me in the mess hall for hours after SRC talking about nothing, who played poker with me, and most of all, who will have my back no matter where I am or what I'm doing. I think what VMI is really about is your Brother RAT. That's what I have learned here, that your BRs will get you through the shit festival that is VMI, and you will develop a bond with them that is stronger than you ever thought possible. A bond so strong that you call them your brothers, your family. I guess I owe that to VMI, it gave me another family. I guess all I have left to say is that I will forever hate VMI, and best of luck Danny and Donnie over your next three years; you've made your dykes proud.

DYKE 2006: Phil Johnson
RAT 2012: Donnie Cox, Danny Moerder

Ryan McCormick

Smithsburg, Maryland
Civil Engineering
Navy

RAT Challenge, Marathon Club, Equestrian Club

VMI for me has been a time where a lot of fun memories have been made and where a lot of tough times have been spent too. No matter what was going on there were always people to help me out along my way. I would like to thank my Friends and Family. Without them encouraging me I doubt I would have made it through this place. The one thing that I learned and was taught early on by my dyke's was that no one makes it through VMI alone. I would especially like to thank Fish, my rat roommate and all my roommates over these past 4 years. It has been one hell of a ride and we have gone through a lot of stuff together but we finally made it through the Mother I. Good luck on all of your future plans and endeavors. To all of my rats, enjoy your time here and the friendships that you make along your way. Time flies by and before you know it you will be the ones writing this and preparing for your own graduation. If I could give you any advice it is to keep your nose clean and fly under the radar. I am glad and thankful that the opportunities that VMI has given me over these last 4 years. I have learned a lot and also have learned a lot of what not to do and how to do it. As it is said "VMI is a place that it sucks to be at, but a great place to be from." I am glad that I took the hard way and not the easy way.

DYKE 2006: Joey Zyra
RAT 2012: Andrew Yancey

Daniel T. McCord

"Tib Tob", "DFC", "FCC"
Orlando, Florida
History, Modern Languages/Cult.
Army

I suppose in the end this place really was worth it; if nothing else, I made some great friends and did manage to have some fun times. Stephen – do well. That is all

DYKE 2006: Joel Burger
RAT 2012: Stephen Buescher

Frank R. Marinaro

Miller Place, New York
Economics & Business
Marine Corps

They say it's the road less traveled and it became painfully clear as to why after finishing my time here at the Institute. Initially it seemed like a terribly poor decision; however upon completion I realized that VMI and all it had to offer was the only true way to experience college. The system forces you to utilize the people you needed and tolerate the ones you didn't. On matriculation day I walked into barracks for the first time with a bunch of strangers, I walked out with brothers. EC/BU: The source for my constant and often self inflicted collisions with southern "culture" proved to be a true learning experience. Although I think I've gotten all the "yall's" someone from north of the Mason Dixon line can handle, I managed to walk away from it all with some truly great friends. To my Paisans (Al, Nick, Jim, Pete, Sean, Ben, Josh, Dave and Sculley): You are what make's life here tolerable. The bad doesn't seem quite as bad and you have the uncanny ability to make something really good, well not so good anymore, but I suppose that's not necessarily a bad thing because of the 1,500 people here you few are the only ones that really matter. I will forever cherish the things you have taught me, the after dinner discussions, and the endless sarcasm. Thank you for everything. o my family: As most of you know at one point in time my road to the Institute seemed like somewhat of a dead end. Because of your confidence in me I was able to accomplish something truly remarkable and I thank you for that. Mom and Dad your support, patience, sympathy and most importantly generosity made me realize how blessed and lucky I am.

"You may be whatever you resolve to be"..... Only time will tell.

DYKE 2006: Steven Bartozack
RAT 2012:

R. Hubbell McGeorge

"Billy Bob", "Hub", "McJorge"
Erie Pennsylvania
Psychology
Army

Lexington Rescue Squad, VMI ERT, Virginia Army National Guard

So finally my four years at the Mother I have come to an end. I'm finding it difficult to come up with words on how I feel about VMI. Whenever we leave, we always talk with one another about our hatred for VMI. But at the end of the day, if we all hated here as much as we said we did, we wouldn't come back. After thinking about it, I can't really say I loved all of my time here, but I do love VMI. I have learned a lot about a few things, but the most important thing I have learned is how not to be. I have put in four years, about $30 grand that the Army didn't pick up, and a whole lot of work. From VMI I will be taking my degree, a wonderful girl from the school next door, two lifelong friends, three great rats and the knowledge that I am a different and better person for my time here. It has been a rough road, but I am honored to be able to say that I am from this place.

DYKE 2006: Kyle W. Schriefer
RAT 2012: Tyler E. Hutchens

Lauren E. McKinley

"Layla", "Kin-Kin", "Shorty Pants
Clifton Park, New York
Chemistry
Navy

Ranger Challenge 3, Equestrian Club

I have nothing to say.

Patrick B. McKinney

"Freakshow", "Pmack", "Megatron"
Big Stone Gap, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Air Force

VMI Football

When I first met Patrick McKinney I thought to myself what bean stalk did this giant fall from? All jokes aside, it has been a true pleasure knowing Pat over the past few years. He is a true friend to the fullest extent of the word. We have had some outrageous times at the house and with DAS BOOT, may he rest in peace. Keep lifting; work hard, stay true and the sky is the limit. YO PMACK WHAT UPPPP -Matt Gift Pat, When I first met you I thought gosh that's a big human being. Though since that very first day I met you in the Mess Hall I found out what a kind heart you had! My fondest memories of you have to be our summer school sessions that we both did over the past three years. I had such a great laugh with you, especially all them times we would dread Coach Sab's Olympic Warm up's and the 5.30am early mornings in the dark ha-ha! The workouts were tough but it was a privilege to do them a long side you. I love you mate! Good luck next season. VMI Football/RDC forever!- Jamie Fernandes The first time you look up to meet Pat McKinney the first thing that comes to mind is "Holy crap!" Pat could easily throw a normal size guy through a brick wall, but when you come to know him you find out that he would only do that if the person really deserved it. Pat is a friend that cannot be replaced. His loyalty and honesty cannot be replaced. I have seen many bad times at this place and Pat was always there to pick me up and set me straight when it seemed like the whole world was out to get me. I have spent many late nights slaving over impossible problems with Pat, JB, Bryce, and Josh. At 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning I would look across at Pat and even though he would be falling asleep he would be willing to walk down to the gas station to grab an energy drink. I hope there are many more moments to come.
-John Collier

Ronald G. McManus, III

"Gwant"
Middletown, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Air Force

Marathon Club and Big Brother/Sister

To my family: I love you all so much, I couldn't even begin to express how grateful I am for everything you guys have done for me.

To my BRs: Hard to believe it was four years ago that we started this crazy journey. You were the only reason I came back after breaks, good luck and God bless you all.

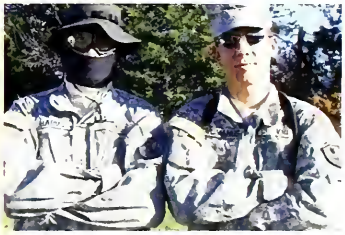
To my rats: Great job this year guys, I'm proud of ya. Its going to be a long 3 years but trust me its worth it. Try not to get into too much trouble without me.

To the Decker group: You know who you are. It's been an awesome year and half walking in Christ with you guys. Good luck next year and give me a call when you head back to Toronto!

DYKE 2007: Eri Kumara
RAT 2012: Desiree Liang

DYKE 2006: Andrew B. Walton
RAT 2012: Lost in Battle

DYKE 2006: Kevin J. Simpson
RAT 2012: Joe Hoerst, Mike Everett

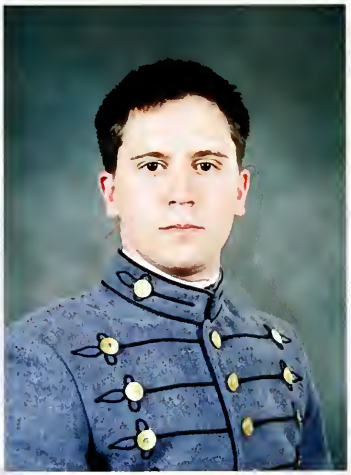


Stefan T. Mello

"Sir Stefan Lord of Mello"
Medford, New Jersey
History
Army

Rugby

The last four years have truly been a unique experience. VMI has given me a new perspective on life. I will forever be indebt to and thankful for my friends who have done so much for me over the years. To my Little Guy, Alex Karl, you have made life here so enjoyable even though I have given you such a rough time over the past three years. To Theimar Rosarda, you have always gotten me to do the things I wanted to put off indefinitely. "Three Echo Corporals?!" To Zach Tharp, since matriculation you have always been there for everything and I would not have it not have made it any other way. To Ian Costello, I will miss being able to go across the courtyard to have a great time procrastinating. To Justin Tammelin, the Whirlwind, we shall continue to sally forth and conquer. To Andrew Craig, never have I met a nicer space marine. To Chris Johnston, sadly I will miss just doing stupid crap with you, and knowing all the while you would have my back. To Adam McClish, the place I live in will be that much more drab and empty that you're gone. To Mark Turner, YUT! And to Gregory Uppiatt, the last but certainly not least, words cannot describe our past four years. I am just thankful you were a part of them. And to the remainder of Hotel Company and all my other BRs that I have not mentioned, you have not had a lesser impact, I just ran out of space, but just remember: Dude Love. To my rat, Jake Tharp, it has been an awesome year, and I cannot be prouder of the cadet you have become. I hope I have been able to impart some wisdom upon you this past year. Without the undying support of my Mom and Dad my time here would have been impossible. My siblings Jared, Chelsea, and Evan; you all helped me get to where I am today. Lastly, to the most important person in my life, Nicole, for the past two years you have made my life complete. I know the circumstances have not been easy for us but I am so thankful for your constant love and support.



James E. Miller

"Jed", "Jedski", "Millertime"
Smithfield, Virginia
English
Air Force

EMT, English Society

I came to VMI for a challenge. Well I've met that, and have made some unforgettable memories and some unforgivable friends. And I've found that it's my friends who made it worth the while, every step of the way. So here's to us: our trips uptown, movie nights, room rumbles, weekends out, weekends in, parties at my house, Busch Gardens, road trips, ski accidents, adventures in Hungary, and the untold follies of Barracks. I wouldn't have missed any of it for anything. To my rats Rob and Christian, you guys are awesome; I couldn't be happier. To my parents and family, thanks for everything. I love you guys! It looks like it's time for us to go out and join the real world. I hope it's ready, because we're going to take it by storm! '09 out baby!

Nicholas R. Mims

"Sinbad", Sin", Jim Jones", "MIMS"
Virginia Beach, Virginia
Psychology
Army

NCAA Football, Writer for the Cadet, RDC

Where to begin. Time here flies when you have the right people around you making sure that you see the light at the end of the tunnel. Making through this place we call the "I" is an accomplishment that we have made all our families proud and some of us lots of money. I know anyone can make it through this place if I could have; not being on any of the "Pro" teams has been something good. Why stay here on weekends? When you can go out and get drunk instead of seeing SGM or any of the other commandant members looking in your room on a Saturday night trying to get another A1 notched on the wall to compare at the end of the semester to see who had the most. To the rats in the room, make sure you guys make it through this place together and will see each other walk. My senior year here couldn't have been better when hearing D laugh for the first time, something that the entire corps should hear at least once. To my pale brother from another mother, you know we had tons of fun 2nd and 3rd class year being us. To my own rats, you guys have done a lot here and I'm very proud of you two. 5 star, you know you going to be company CO one day. Just don't use your rank against Zach too much. Zach, I don't have to say much to you because you already know. To my boys Snuffiddy, Coldstone, Albert, and Kev.... Thanks for all the memories. Thanks for impact you guys have and will always leave on my life. You know you got a friend that is down for you to the end. Last but not least, William Bell. Thanks for being there for me when times were hard and being there to enjoy the pleasures of the Red Velvet Club. Classic times! I've been blessed by god to have met the people I have and enjoy these 4 years here. With that being said, You stay Classy San Diego.

DYKE 2006: Michael R. Hiltner
RAT 2012: Jake Tharp

DYKE 2006:Jason Fraser
RAT 2012: Robert Earle, Christian Neubaum

DYKE 2006: Terrell Golden
RAT 2012: Zach Webb, Greg Walker

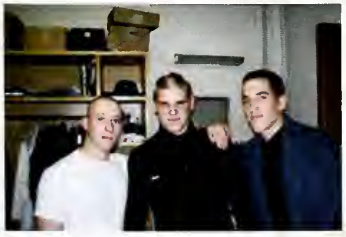
Andrew M. Miraldi

"Drew", "Drewpy", "Monster Tard"
Norwich, Vermont
International Studies, French
Army

Ice Hockey, RDC, Pipe Band, TCM

VMI has been a long and stressful place, and I could not have made it through here without my family and friends. Thanks a lot Mom, Dad, Jake, and Story. I love you so much. Also, to all the great times and experiences I had with room 172 and the realm (mostly the TCM). Over the past four years, you guys have become my best friends, bar none. I'm going to miss you guys. To the hockey team, I had some of my greatest weekends at VMI with you guys. Keep up the good work, and bring home the gold. And finally, to the rats, good luck! And please don't take this place too seriously. Be who you want to be, not who THEY want you to be.

DYKE 2006: Terry Slack
RAT 2012: Maxx Hipko, George Statzell



Michael A. Montoya

"Spider Mexican", "Skeletor"
Moorpark, California
Chemistry
Marine Corps

CCS, Ranger Challenge

If I have learned one thing during my time here at the Institute it is the importance of prayer. If there is one piece of advice that I can give to anyone it would be "Don't spaz." Just breathe let go and let God. No matter what, everything turns out for the best. Just know this too shall pass.

DYKE 2006: Johnny Garvey
RAT 2012: Paul Ponsiglione

Amanda F. Moore

"Mandi"
Concord, Virginia
Psychology
Marine Corps

NCAA Cross Country & Track 4, Triathlon Team 2; S6 Staff 3, 2; Psychology Club 2; College Republicans 3, 2; Baptist Student Union 2; Big Brother/Big Sister 2; Recycling Club 2

I may not have enjoyed it all of it, but I'm grateful for the lessons that I learned, and the amazing friends I gained. To Papa: Thank you for reminding me that simple is all you need. To G-ma: Having a back bone is critical. To Granny: Thank you for teaching me what not to be. To Gall: Striving for perfection is never that far out of your reach. You just need to apply yourself. To Ma Although it may hurt, brutal honesty is the best answer. To My Father: No matter what happens, I will always love you. To Beth: Thank you for not allowing me to settle for anything less. Word to your llama. To Jay: Thank you for being the Dad that I needed later in life. P.S. Don't tell Beth about Hooters. To Chelsea: Laughter is key and there is a reason why God did not make us sisters. Remember, throw those hands up. To Wee: Never let anyone stand in the way of your dreams. To Chelsie: My standards are high P.S. To Holly: We will get what we want out of life. To Boot: Be strong and never leave your computer to bake in the sun. Haha. To Mama Jill: Your advise is the best do the dance! To Weebit: It still amazes me how two completely opposite people can get along so well. ATL. To Charlie: Thank you for the advice over the years. It has gone further than you think. P.S. I'm taking Horus! To Brownie, Karbear, Jackie, Thomas, Taylor, Baity, Zack, Mike, Fish, O-Ray, Jared, Chris, Blincoe, Timmy and Pope: Thank you for endless hours of laughter. Also, Chris Thank you for baseball) To my closest friends Remember what happened in Old Town,/ NYC/ Tampa/ on "That Boat", stays there. To my dykes, Abby, Anya, and Hatley, you were the best, and even better you were 2007! To my co-dykes I think we lived up to what our dykes wanted us to. To my RAT-tie, Chris I could not have asked for a better RAT. Just think, we met when you were ready to leave, and I'm thankful you stayed. Make your dyke proud! Keep your head up and I'll catch you on the flip side.

DYKE 2007: Abigail Ward
RAT 2012: N/A

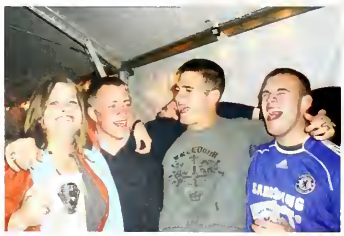
Jacklyn D. Morton

"Jack Attack", "Jackster"
Dundas, Virginia
International Studies
Army

Alpha Co. PVT (4,3,2,1), A-1 Club (2,1), Big Brother Big Sister (4,3,2,1), RAT Challenge (3,2,1), Habitat for Humanity (1), Softball (4)

The I- "If you saw two guys named Hambone and Flippy, which one would you think liked dolphins the most? Id say Flippy, wouldn't you? Youd be wrong, though. It's Hambone." Jack Handey
Class of 2009: We have been great en masse, but now it's time to be great individually. Good luck! My family: Thanks for your encouragement in everything that I've ever wanted to do. Without you, no accomplishment would be as satisfying. Tuff: I know I owe you a rat ring, but one day you'll understand why I lost mine. You are the absolute best brother a girl could ask for, and nothing at VMI ever seemed cool until it impressed you. My buddies (drinking and otherwise): I've truly enjoyed making the best of our time both here and away. I have four years worth of memories of some of the best and worst times of my life, and they wouldn't be the same without each of you in them. I wish everyone the best of luck in everything you do. V-ron: Don't drink in barracks, and don't get caught up in how much this place sucks. Your next three years will all be hard in different ways, but trust me, you will find plenty to laugh about along the way. Good luck in all your adventures to come, and I know you will do great things. Karen and Eri: I can't even express how much I learned from you guys, or how much I'm still learning from you. I've made some of my best memories hanging out with y'all, and I'm sure there are more to come. You still haven't visited DundasTab: Pretty much the coolest Ring DYKE/ PW buddy ever. I've looked up to you since RAT Year, and I'm so proud of everything you're doing in the (yut) Marine Corps. (noun) hostages sympathy for captor: a condition experienced by some people who have been held as hostages for an extended time in which they begin to identify with and feel sympathetic toward their captors. (HR: Encarta.com)
"Ember tervez, Ishten vegez."

DYKE 2007: Karen A. Bill
RAT 2012: Veronica Lentsch



Christina R. Mowatt-Larssen

Oak Hill, Virginia
International Studies
Army

Track & Field

DYKE 2007: Anastasia M. Kovarik
RAT 2012: Jenna Pickett

Carter L. Murray

"Carter F."
Richmond, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Navy

Honor Court, Football 4, Lexington Rescue Squad, VMI ERT, Trap and Skeet Team, SAME

It's been a wonderful experience, these last four years at VMI. There were times when I was sure I would never finish, yet somehow graduation looms right around the corner. And as much as we all complain everyday, I know that I will miss being here. I don't think there's any place quite like it, and it's something you have to personally experience to truly understand the friendships and the good times. I have to thank my friends for being there, without you guys I would never have finished. We had a ton of great times, and still will. And my roommate, without you I'm not sure I would have a Civil Engineering degree... Both of my rats have been great, I love you guys to death. It really is true, "You may be whatever you resolve to be." look at me, the Navy screwed up somewhere and gave me a pilot slot! Finally, I'm so proud of my little brother. Cammie, it was awesome when you decided to come to VMI, and I love seeing you here everyday. I can't wait to watch you walk across that stage, it really will come a hell of a lot faster than you realize!

DYKE 2006: Ryan Tibbs
RAT 2012: Brandon Gary, Brooks Martin

Steven H. Nash

"Nash", "The Big Nasty"
Madison Heights, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Air Force

RAT Challenge, Bravo Guidon, Little John Crew '09, VMI Theater, Racquetball Club

To my family: I can't thank you enough for all of the support you have given me over the last 4 years, both moral and monetary. I wouldn't have been able to make it this far without you. I love you. To The Council: You guys are what got me through this place. I'm sure you all feel the same way. I seriously couldn't ask for better friends. I know that whatever good memories I will have of this place, you guys will be a part of them. The best memories will probably be of times spent away from the Institute, but we had some pretty good times in barracks too. This last year has been especially awesome. Blasting M.I.A on the way to Hollins, going places in Roanoke we will never talk about publicly, drinking at McCoys and plotting the demise of The Palms. Here's to the continuing shenanigans. To my RAT: Don't let this place get to you. Keep your chins up and work hard, its worth it in the end. I look forward to seeing all of you progress through your cadetships. I hope you have learned a lot from your dykes. Make us proud!

To the Class of 2009: 1-2-1-2!!!

DYKE 2006: Dave Bhatta
RAT 2012: Spence Dodge

Robert J. Naylor

Lexington, Kentucky
History
Army

RAT Challenge

The past four years here have definitely been an experience. VMI didn't end up being what I had dreamed of, but as time progressed I learned that it still had something to offer, an opportunity to make some of the best friendships anyone could ever ask for. If it weren't for my boys I don't think that I would have ever made it through these past four years. I'll never forget those who helped me stick it through to the end and I wish them the best of luck. To my family, I can never thank you enough for this opportunity. To my friends, I congratulate you, we did it. So in closing, all I can do is pass on my words of wisdom, to complete VMI and leave with your sanity one must keep their cool, its your only hope.

DYKE 2006: Barry McCord
RAT 2012: Ryan Chounard

Chase Nelson

"Chim-Chim", "Chimmy"
Columbia, Maryland
International Studies, Arabic
Marine Corps

Pipe Band, Body Building Club, Model Arab League

Thanks to all my friends, my roommates, my family for helping me get through VMI, couldn't have done it without all who stood with me. Thank you everyone for all the good times, crazy stuff we got into since rat year. Hope everyone does well in whatever you all are doing following graduation.

DYKE 2006: Nolan Maxwell
RAT 2012:

Richard H. Newkirk

Albany, New York
Electrical & Computer Engineering
Air Force

RDC, Air Force, Delta Company Cadre, Boxing Club

Stephen C. Nichols

"Random Guy", "Steve the Terrible"
Richmond, Virginia
Arabic
Army

Competitive Boxing, Arabic Table

Brian J. Nilles

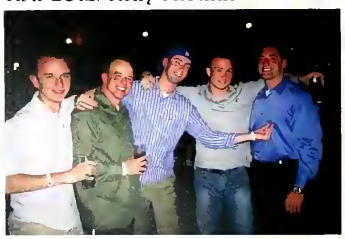
Lynchburg, Virginia
Psychology
Army

MMA, Jiu Jitsu, Soccer, Philosophy

VMI lets face it, this place sucks. It drags you down and the Commandant's staff hands out needless confinement and PTs for the most miniscule of infractions. Overall I would say that coming to this school provided more of a hassle to my morale then it did a challenge. At the same time there are some things that make me appreciate the fact that I did choose to go here. VMI has actually opened so many opportunities for me. For instance, had I not been forced to take RAT boxing I would never have realized my potential as well as how enjoyable it is. The boxing team and coaches have helped me the past three years to push myself to the edge physically and mentally and always strive to better myself. Being here at the Institute also lead me to the option of studying abroad. I can sufficiently say that the semester I was in Jordan was my best of college. I met great people and it really opened my eyes to other cultures. However, the best part about this place is the very few people here that you can tolerate, that spend the worst times with you. Keep in contact and if you ever need anything just ask and I'll do my best to help you out. E, I'm proud of the accomplishments you have made thus far. You really have made a transition and I'm proud to be a part of that. Keep working on your grades so you can go to Italy! Also keep working hard at wrestling and don't get discouraged because it's what you love and always remember why you do it. Marty and Andy, you guys are crazy. That's all I can say. Marty good luck with your whole teddy bears that breathe fire or whatever it is that you never stop talking about. Andy…your face just annoys me, so if you don't do something about it then I will! Seriously though hang in there buddy. Trent, BG, Joe, Gumpy, Marky Mark, Cammy and Scarface. Ya'll are all awesome. Thanks to everybody who ever helped me in anything for the past four years, there's way too many of you to name, but you know who you are. A special thank you to my parents though, I don't think you both know how much I appreciate everything (rides, packages, visits, gracious use of the house, etc…). Big Sexy, Tiny D, and Seabiscuit…what can I say? Nothing I can write here will convey what I want to express; just know that y'all are some pretty sweet roommates. VMI has been my second home for the last four years and despite all of the endless crap that fills barracks there's a part of me which is sad that I won't be coming back for a fifth. Graduating from VMI will unquestionably be the biggest accomplishment of my life to date. It is one of the few things in my life that I take true pride in doing. Even so, everything I put into graduating from VMI will always be secondary in my mind when I look back at my time here. The friendships and experiences with all of my Hotel (Pride of the Corps) boys are what I take away from the Mother I. We've had some crazy times and I know that we're gonna have a lot more.

When people have asked me that if I had a chance to start over would I still come to VMI, I have always told them that I wasn't sure. Now, after experiencing all that the Institute has to offer, I think I can give them a better answer. To all of Hotel….DUDE LOVE

DYKE 2006: Douglas E. Ziegenfuss, Jr.
RAT 2012: Kelly McMinn



DYKE 2006: Dan Wilmoth
RAT 2012: Eric Russo

DYKE 2006: Michael Pasquale
RAT 2012: Caleb Healy

Philip Noonan

"Newman", "Nooners", "Little Noonan"
Springfield, Virginia
History
Marine Corps

Cadet Newspaper Staff 4; Rat Challenge Cadre 3,2,1; Library cadet Assistant 3; Office of Career Services 2,1.

Its hard to believe that three and a half years in this dungeon is now over. Looking back it felt like the ratline would never be over and that Ring Figure couldn't come soon enough, but they both ended in a flash. My BRs and professors have helped me through a lot of bad times; for that I am forever indebted to them. To Captain Beasley, LTC Messimer and Col. Ojure, thank you for all your guidance and support. Most of all it has been the Miller Academic Center that helped me through the most difficult of times here. To Alpha, '10,'11,'12, it was the greatest privilege of my cadetship to be your cadre for Rat Challenge. I hope that you enjoyed Rat Challenge as much as I did. To my BRs, the class of 2009, good luck in the future. I wish you the best of luck and that after four years at this place you never have a bad day again in your lives.

DYKE 2006: Nate Parsons
RAT 2012:

Daniel J. O'Connell

"Dan"
Leesburg, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Army

CCS CIC (2009)

DYKE 2006: Kyle R. Rosch
RAT 2012:

Alex F. Oliver

"AO", "Oli"
Charlottesville, Virginia
International Studies
Army

Alpine Ski Team (ACIC), Ranger Challenge (ACIC), Alpha Cadre, Science & Security Minor, Model Arab League, Club Lacrosse Team.

I wish I had been a ghost rat. It turns out no one cares who has the shiniest shoes in the real world; they care who has a 4.0 GPA. I, like many people, got too caught up in the ratline. For all the emphasis that is placed on it while you're here, realize that it is only a tiny part of your cadetship. For what its worth, I regret being a toolbag. Ironically, the two best times of my cadetship were not even at VMI.

Make time to study abroad. Seeing someone else's point of view is something every American needs to do. Get an internship if for no other reason than to confirm your sneaking suspicion that there is a "real world" out there. You will realize that the people you meet in that fabled "real world" have no semblance of the integrity, discipline or motivation that you possess.

To my DYKE- I succeeded here despite your influence.

To my RAT- You are my legacy. Continue to make me proud.

To the Class of 2009- In life, you meet everyone twice.

My advice: Get good grades, have long hair and take every possible weekend.

DYKE 2006: Zachary R. Miller
RAT 2012: Garrett Newsome, Jake Wood

Stephanie M. Ortiz

Stafford, Virginia
Psychology
Navy

Swim Team, Big Brother/ Big Sister, Psychology Club, OGA

I never thought I would make it to this year. It's been like a roller coaster ride that never ends and this year has been by far the best of the four.

As much as I never wanted to come back from furloughs or have summer end, it was always a good feeling to be up at 3 A.M. knowing you always have someone to talk to somewhere in barracks. And having someone to laugh daily till it hurts at the most inappropriate time with the most inappropriate jokes...Thank you Celine, Christina, and Kelsey for the amazing memories to end this ride- you guys made the ghetto an extraordinary time.

Celine, I love you babycakes!! Um... can you believe we still live together? We have made it through some tough stuff. Good luck in the Air Force!! You better not go jumping in any puddles without me! xoxo

Samantha . . . . good luck. Haha.

DYKE 2006: Joselyn L. Wall
RAT 2012: Samantha Price

Corielle W. Parsons

"Corie", "Wyshay"
Rockford, Michigan
Psychology
Marine Corps

I couldn't have made it through this school without the help of my friends and roommates. Right off the bat, the boys of Delta Company '09 have had my back. No matter what kind of problems I had, or if I just needed someone to vent or talk to, they have been there for me. We've had some really good times. I couldn't have asked to be put in a better company. I will remember, and hopefully keep in contact with, them for the rest of my life. I also couldn't have asked for better roommates than the ones I have now. Ateala Tuff and I have a unique relationship. I know I can go to her about anything and get an answer that hasn't been sugar coated to save my feelings. But we also can be so goofy together...keeps life interesting. Roxanne Franck and I are on the same page with a lot of things. We can go out and have a great time together, then come back and handle whatever business we need to. I know I can tell her anything and she will keep it to herself. I thank God for every day that he has given me and for helping me through the rough times. I also thank my parents, for they are the ones who raised me right, and encouraged me to give it my all and work hard for the things that I want in life.

DYKE 2006: Katrina Powell
RAT 2012: Kelly Maggio

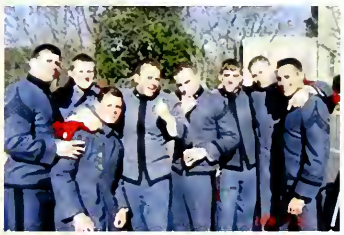
Kevin C. Pelletier

"K Pel", "Kevy Kev"
Williamsport, Maryland
IS/ML and Cultures
Army

Cadre 3,2,1; Martial Arts 3,2

This school, as BG Farrel puts it, has character. And anything with character he says is going to be loved as much as it is hated. Those words most certainly resonate true when I think about this place. I love it for the BRs it has given me; Dave you have more heart than anyone I'll ever know, if I had half the heart you do I'd have no question in accomplishing the things in which I'm pursuing; Rick, you are by far the most naturally talented leader I've ever known, you'll do amazing things; Hammer, you'll accomplish whatever you point your mind too, it wont be long until you're flying your own heloc Dan, you're the smartest person I know but dang you sleep a lot; and Nick, we only bang heads every once in awhile because we think so much alike. I cant wait to see you start up your own law firm one day. As much of a gift the Institute has given to me in my BRs it has also given me hypocrisy and cold heartedness. I never thought I'd be sitting here writing this and only seeing two drum outs my first class year, but hopefully the entire Corps is more honorable, however difficult I find that to believe. To my rat Brandon, I wouldn't trade it for the world though. I would do it all again in the blink of an eye. This school isn't a service academy, it isn't because its better than a service academy. This place humbles you, makes you question who you are and what your character is truly made of. You will accomplish your dreams Brandon, never forget that it is only a matter of time and sweat. You put enough of both in and success is the only result. To those that I have trained in Delta, I hope I have inspired you as those that came before inspired me. I know I made plenty of mistakes, but know I always tried to look back and improve myself. I implore you to carry on the tradition that is Delta, so one day I can come back when I'm old and crippled and point up to the 4th stoop and say...that's a Delta rat. Good luck to all and thank you.

DYKE 2006: John Sheckells
RAT 2012: Brandon Norem



Derek A. Petereit

Redmond, Virginia
Economics
Marine Corps

Sean M. Peterson

Stafford, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Army

Marathon Club, Alpine Ski Team

My VMI life can be described as relaxed but at times hard, long but also quick, and a feeling of enjoyment towards the end.....thats what she said. I've learned some valuable lessons throughout my four years such as don't rub shoe polish on the brim of your roommates cover so it leaves a black streak across his forehead, don't wrap up his cell phone in 4 feet of bubble wrap and duck tape, and most of all be careful when you decide to go with 13 cadets to Cancun Mexico. But even so, if I had the chance to go back Id do it all again. Thats what I've learned most here, that even when hard times are thrown our way we can still find time to have fun. Life's too short to stress out about the small things. For example, being put on confinement for the weekend because you got caught crossing the street rather than taking the bridge. I've made some great friends here and hope that we will all be able to change the world if we stay focused. I pray that for all of us going into harms way God will give us strength and courage to succeed. I thank my family and friends who have helped me and wish them the best. Good bless and Rah Virginia Mil.

Richard W. Pfrogner, II

"Froggy"
Alpharetta, Georgia
Mechanical Engineering
Army

Soccer, Making Drew's Life Miserable Club

To my friends, I wish to give you all humpback whales, may they follow you throughout your life. To my enemies, the next time you eat ice cream I hope it gets all over your face. You will remember me forever. To my roommates, remember chill and don't spaz. To Zy Ty, may the lines that you follow in life lead you somewhere else next time.

DYKE 2006: John K. Shillingburg
RAT 2012:

DYKE 2006: Ryan Loucks
RAT 2012: Marshall Dalessandro

DYKE 2006: Kyle Hamm
RAT 2012: Damien Bartholomew

John L. Phelps

Chesapeake, Virginia
Psychology
Air Force

NCAA Baseball

"One of the beautiful things about life is that every once in a while you come into a situation where you want to, and where you have to, reach down and prove something."

Patrick S. Pillow

"Stevie G", "Giggsy"
Lynchburg, Virginia
History
Air Force

Pre Law Society, Cadet Battery, NCMT

To Club 108: thanks for the best First class room I could ever ask for; great times and innumerable memories...

To the RAT of 108: Remember what we taught you: stay out of trouble, and wear that Privates belt proudly in 2011-2012!!

It is hard to believe that my time here has finally come to its conclusion. After all of the griping and complaining, the secret BRC uniform inspections and the bones for absolutely nothing at all, I have finally found my silver lining. No matter what went on here, I have the greatest friends that will truly last a lifetime. For all of those Charlie Company rankers next year, stay strong, I know that you can carry on without my positive feedback hahaha. Just remember, like Pillow always says: GLORY GLORY MANCHESTER UNITED!!!!!!!

Philip J. Pohlman

St. Louis, Missouri
International Studies and Spanish
Army

The Cadet Newspaper

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; because there is not effort without error and shortcomings; but who does actually strive to do the deed; who knows the great enthusiasm, the great devotion, who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement and who at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."~ Theodore Roosevelt

DYKE 2006: Brian Winter
RAT 2012: Mike Devine

DYKE 2006: Steve Bechtel
RAT 2012: Dan Fiasconaro

DYKE 2006: Chris Foltz
RAT 2012: John Colon, Arthur Morrill

Michael L. Porter, Jr.

Mount Vernon, Ohio
International Studies
Army

NCMT 3,2,1; RAT Challenge 1; Cadre 2.

I came to VMI from a tiny school in small town Ohio. At the time I didn't know what to expect, but then again no one can truly understand this place till they have lived through it. Quickly though I learned what it meant to be apart of this place and what I found were the best friends, roommates, and rats, that a person could ask for. After four years we all realize that there isn't a single one of us here that didn't have a tough time and the only thing that kept us coming back from those weekends and furloughs were the brothers and sisters we had made. So looking back on it all if I could do everything over again, I would, as cliché as it may seem there truly is something great about this place that is more than the words of this short narrative can tell. This feeling stems from the Brother RAT I have here, it is certainly not the buildings, the boning, the hot Friday parades, the sports events that got in the way of that extended weekend we could have taken, or the quote "good feeling from taking the 'road less traveled'". So to my rats Brian and Justin I am so proud of everything the two of you have done, you have truly proven yourselves to your friends, family, BRs, and Me. I know the two of you have a wonderful future in front of you and that you will both be receiving your rings and diplomas before long. And lastly to the members of HACIENDA III Chase, Fish, and Zack, what to say other than the best roommates ever, so many stories and tales from weekends at Radford to Puerto Rican nights to grilling out at Goshens! Viva La HACIENDA, and remember everywhere we go in life, LET THIS ONE PLAY OUT HILARITY WILL ENSUE!

Joseph T. Purello

"Joe Con Pro", "Jose", "The Don"
Richmond, Virginia
Business and Economics
Marine Corps

Thanks to Joe B., Chris, Joe T., the boys from Hotel (you know who you are), Dennis, Mark, the ECBU guys (Chris and Steve). You are the guys who helped me survive this place from matriculation day to graduation. I can't list all the good times but here are some: the ratline, room 303, "to the whipping post", the everyday pranks, summer school, room 169, JMU, Richmond, the Stop n' Rob, morning PT, Jujitsu open mat, Gunther, long nights in Scott Shipp, Call on Me, Frat House admiration, Spring Break 08, Spring Break 09, Ring Figure, Hunans, roommate theme songs, Kroger, Lex Vegas, water balloon launches, "doesn't Joe have an inhaler?", photoshop, and many more. Special thanks to Mom, Dad, Jim, Amy, Al, and Courtney. You all gave me support, love, encouragement, and advice. I can't even begin to express in words how grateful I am for that.

Isaac B. Putnam

Haines, Alaska
Electrical & Computer Engineering
Air Force

VMI Wrestling, Rugby, IEEE

To my parents, thank you for all of the support you've given so generously and to my friends, thank you for making VMI bearable.

DYKE 2006: David J. Rahl
RAT 2012: Justin Bradshaw, Brian Eads

DYKE 2006: Richard W. Durkee III
RAT 2012: Sean Alexander

DYKE 2006: Nick Saccone
RAT 2012: David Wagner, Tim Graziano

Andrew R. Rademaker

McLean, Virginia
International Studies
Army

David R. Radke

"Dave", "Davidius"
Herndon, Virginia
International Studies
Army

RAT Challenge, Boxing

I truly believe that my time here at VMI has been short and sweet. Of course there are those long days but it is truly what you make of your time here. To my dykes, I love you guys and you have always been there for me. I would not be the man I am today without you all. Chris, I will always think of you as my best friend. To my family, Mom, Dad and Nate, you have all been so supportive of me and I cannot thank you all enough. My success is all because of the guidance and help you gave throughout my life. I will do my best to make you all proud. Be sure of this. I love you all so much and thank you. To my RAT, make something of your time here. Always strive to improve yourselves. I think this place has a funny way of bring that out of you. I am proud of you all and I look forward to seeing you progress through this place. To my BRs, it has been a pleasure and I very much look forward to seeing you all very soon. To room 102, Finney you have always been a brother to me. We have had our fair share of laughs and I could not have gotten this far without you. Bryce you landed on our door step 3rd class year and it was the best thing we could've asked for. You have been a great friend and I cannot wait to see where life takes you. David "Schlaser", you are a great guy and I know you have only lived with us for a little but it has been a great time having you in the room with us all. To my Delta '09 boys, "The Mafia", I could not have ever imagined a better group of friends. To our times at the Bay House, Richmond, Sweet Briar, Roanoke, MBC, New Jersey, Albany, NYC, Chicago, Mexico and so much more. You are all a bunch of classy guys and all my brothers. "You Time Will Come". We will all rule the world one day. I am sure. I have no worry about keeping in touch with any of you. I love you guys, and remember "in the end...we get it all."

Ross H. Ramsay

Charlottesville, Virginia
History
Marine Corps

VMI has been one of the best things to ever happen to me, even if I did hate it for the first two years of my Cadetship. It has taught me many different life lessons and has matured me from a High school kid into someone who's ready to take on the world. To all my friends at VMI thanks for always being there, we had a blast that we will always remember. I would like to thank my parents for sending me to VMI and not letting me go to any other college and spending all the money, which you will never see. To my roommates, we had ups and downs living together for three and a half years. There are many memories that I will never forget of each one of you. You guys are some of the closest friends that I have and we will always be friends. To my rats I expect you to keep the DYKE line going, for the most part you have been good rats, all six of you. I will make sure to come back next year and tailgate for the football games. In the end I'm glad that I came to VMI, although it has been very hard for me these 4 years. I am very proud I made it through VMI.

DYKE 2006: Erik D. Uber
RAt 2012:

DYKE 2006: Christopher P. Chang-Lo
RAT 2012: Kyle James

DYKE 2006: Yau-Ren Kuo
RAt 2012:

Christopher J. Rau

"Raudadd", "High Class"
Herndon, Virginia
International Studies
Army

Private 4,3,2,1; PTs 4,3,2,1; Con Pro 3,1; Jazz Band 4,3,2,1; Brass Quintet 4,3,2,1; Rifle 4; Newman Club 4.

I was brutally honest. I said things to make people laugh. I partied. I crossed the line. I got in trouble. I studied abroad. I got in trouble again. I learned stuff. I made friends. I voted Republican but dated Democrat. I had but one regret- that we all had to go our separate ways. Just a handful of the many memories: IHTFP, Gunther, Hunans/Kroger/A-5, Rose Bowl, Germany, "daddy's home", Florida, New York, "Gregory Fitz", Ring Figure, Physics, "you gotta do the cookin' by the book", the Office, the Batcave, Lex Vegas in summertime, Gary, Will Ferrell movies, W., Captain America, "Plumber-time", CEA training, Gaza Strip, Slum 478, the 303, "just think of it as guys 20 getting lucky," Tough Guise/Guys, "doesn't joe have an inhaler?", "you know that church group I'm really involved in?", "KELLY!", Stop 'n Rob, Tales of John Brister, Sleep Eating, "To the whipping post!", Rolling Stones > Led Zeppelin, Meatspin, all the pranks, "Mrs. Purello", "Cowboys like us", "High Class, Royalty!", "EG: So what were you doing when I got arrested and made my one phone call? Me: Sorry dude,we were watching beerfest. I figured if it was important you'd call back."
A few quotes to live by:
"They say hard work never killed anybody, but I figure why take the chance?" –Ronald Reagan
"A man with a strong will is a majority." –Andrew Jackson
"All men profess honesty as long as they can. To believe all men honest would be folly. To believe none is something worse." –John Quincy Adams
"Never fight a battle if you don't gain anything by winning." –Erwin Rommel
Thanks for the memories guys, and good luck.

Mitchell A. Ress

"Mitch", "Meech"
Roanoke, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Marine Corps

Cadre, Mini Baja Design Team, MMA Club, Body-building Club

Mom and Dad, I owe everything to you. Without you I would have never made it to VMI. You have pushed me through life's struggles and without your persistence I would have never been able to accomplish what I have. You have taught me through your example to always work hard physically and academically and I can't thank you enough for always pushing me to achieve more. Drew, Ricky, Chuck, Andy, Roxanne, Lee, Leon, Garth, you are all the reason I am glad I came to VMI and would never trade our friendships and times together for anything. I wish you all the best and graduation is going to be tough knowing that we are going to have to move on. I hope I get to stay in touch with everyone of you and hope we never forget the times we've had here. Graham, always try your hardest because you are always being watched. You are a very driven individual and I hope that takes wherever you wish to be. I am proud to have someone as tough and motivated as you as my RAT. I am proud to be from VMI and it scares me to say that I will miss our school the second we leave.

Charles A. Rice

"Rang-a-Tang", "Sweater Vest"
Virginia Beach, Virginia
Economics and Business
Air Force

Wrecking Crew 2,1; Cadre 3; Sergeant 2; S5 Lt. 1; Class Treasurer; Bomb Business Manager, Pre-Law Society Treasurer.

To my parents: mom I love you and thanks for the support; dad, "Ready. Eyes. Right." Tori, you better never go to Ring Figure. To my roommates, all of them, thanks for rolling me over when I snore. Thanks for the good times, and thanks for helping through the bad. CluB 339 I'll miss the dance parties. 126, I feel smarter just sitting in the room with you fellas. To my brothers I will never forget you and will always be a phone call away. VMI made me grow up and it taught me lessons I will never forget. Thanks VMI for teaching me the true meaning of two minutes till…home cooked food…and bromance. VMI is the only place on earth where 18-23 yr old males sit down every day and fix the world over cereal. I'm not going to remember my specials, PTs, or confinement, I'm going to remember how I got them. To my room RAT, you guys are awesome. Stay strong, stay up, and grind. The ratline is four years and it only gets harder. Reach your potential and strive to be the best. Study, and have fun. Always be a Keydet, a cadet at VMI who works as hard as they party, who goes big every time because going home certainly isn't an option, who loves his family, country, and friends above all else. Whose foundation for friendships was built through pain, sweat and tears, and then solidified on good beer, and better stories. Whose word is gold because they keep their promises and do just as they say they will. Who love and respect the women in their lives, if they have them, and if they don't then they are theirs for the taking. Here is to the Class of 2006. Here is to Brian's dancing. Here is to Zyra and his bikini. Here is to throwing up on Drew's computer and him not being mad. Here is to Ricky shaking that booty. Here is to Chuck and adventure sports. Here is to Al and the 'leers. Here is to risked number 1s. Here is to running the block. Here is to having a house in town. Here is to walking in Trumps office. Here is to the good times. Here is to the leadership wall. Here is to the memories. Here is to the sweat and tears. Here is to becoming a man. Here is where a piece of my heart will always be.

DYKE 2006: Seth Enterline
RAT 2012: Tom Ryan

DYKE 2006: Anthony W. Tolomeo
RAT 2012: David G. Neal

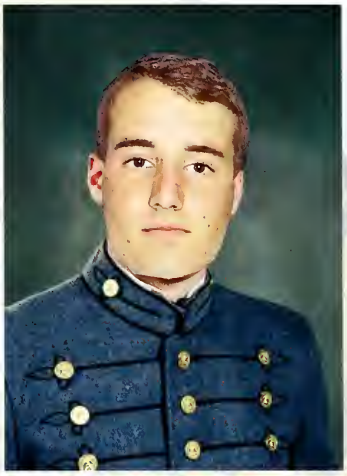
DYKE 2006: Dave Raser
RAT 2012: Andrew Powell, Zaher Shihata

Jacob T. Riggs

Charlotte, North Carolina
Civil Engineering
Navy

James A. Robertson, III

Fredericksburg, Virginia
Biology
Army



Michael A. Robertson, Jr.

Manassas, Virginia
Psychology
Army

I have only a few things to say. To my friends, it has been a fun journey the four years we have spent together. There was always something new going on. To my rats, the journey has just begun for you and it isn't an easy road to travel. Some words of advice don't lie and don't trust the commandant staff. If you follow those two rules you will make it through this place. And that is all I really have to say about that.

DYKE 2006: Andy Wagner
RAT 2012: Chris Cranstone, Logan McCloud

DYKE 2006: Stuart A. Minor
RAT 2012:

DYKE 2006: Bryan D. Winter
RAT 2012:

Jacob E. Rochester

Dallas, Texas
English
Army

Ashley M. Rohls

Alexandria, Virginia
International Studies
Army

"The truly great man is he who would master no one, and who would be mastered by none"
- Kahlil Gibran

Andrew J. Rohrback

Vienna, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Marine Corps

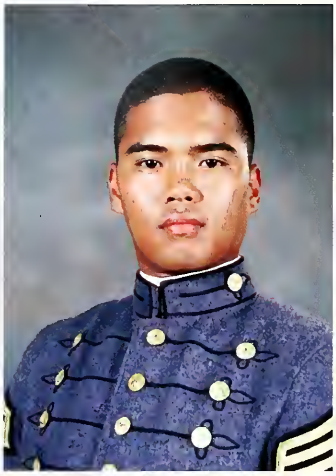
RDC, Club Lacrosse

First, thank you to my family for the many years of support you have given me not only to get to this point, but through every challenge I have faced. Without your love and support the easiest tasks would have seemed impossible. Second, thank you to "The Family" for all the memories we have shared over the past four years. Some were bad and some were good, but all have brought us closer together. We started in the sinks where the dykes taught us well, we now finish in the sinks where I can only hope we passed on our tradition. Best of luck to us all and God bless.

DYKE 2006: Dan Osbourne
RAT 2012:

DYKE 2006: Berit Oftedahl
RAT 2012: Kelly Morrison, Sarah Strand

DYKE 2006: Adam Rosenbaum
RAT 2012: Chris Fraser



Thelmar A. Rosarda

"Mar"
Chatanooga, Tennessee
Computer Science
Navy

Trident Society 4,3,2,1; Cadre 3,2,1; Stonewall Guard Drill Team 4,3; The Bomb 1; Big Brother/Big Sister 1; Racquetball 1.

It's hard to believe how four years have gone by not so quickly. It's been an experience, to say the least, that I've spent my college years in the Institute. There were many good times, some bad ones, and some that only a few can remember from memorable weekend trips to nearby colleges. I have met a lot of great people and learned a lot. My experiences during the last four years have equipped me to take on the real world. I hope I can serve my country and be a good citizen with the things I have learned from this place. Thank you to my brother rats, friends, and especially to my roommates. Club G17/3-134, you all have definitely made this school worth coming to. I've had a great time and I appreciate all the laughter, jokes, random Journey songs that we've had through the years. You all have made our four years here a memorable and a good one. To my rats Ryan and Will: You two have a long road ahead of you but I have no doubt that you will prosper. Keep your heads up and get involved. Always do the right thing, even if sometimes you have to swallow your pride. Accept responsibilities for your own actions because at the end of the day, you will be facing yourself in a mirror. Keep yourselves busy with extracurricular activities, school work and anything else to pass the time. You both have been great rats and I appreciate everything you both have done for the room. Be good to people and show respect to those who deserve them. Above all, always have fun. To my Mom, Russell, Aunty Christina and family: Thank you very much for all you've done for me. Please know that I appreciate every bit of support, encouragement, and love you all have given me. No words can explain my gratitude for the all the sacrifices you've made to ensure that I receive a college education. I will always be here if you all need me.
"Aut viam inveniam aut faciam"

DYKE 2006: Clinton T. Thompson
RAT 2012: Ryan Schaedel, William Wild

Stephen T. Russell

Chesapeake, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Navy

GC Secretary, VMI Swimming, The House

My success here would not have been possible without my parents and family. Mom and Dad, thank you for believing in me and supporting me with whatever endeavor I pursued. Without you guys I wouldn't be graduating from VMI and commissioning into the Navy into my dream job. The professors really made VMI a great learning experience. My academic success would not exist without your willingness to help me succeed. I'd like to thank Coach for training me for my three years on the swim team. Swimming was my outlet and it kept me in shape—and sane—at this hectic place. The best thing I'm going to take away from the Institute is the friends I've made along the way. These are the greatest guys I've ever met and I feel privileged to have such good friends. I know in the future I can make a call and they'll be there. To all the GC boys, it's been a trip. Finney, Barrett, and John, it's been a pleasure helping you guys out. To my RAT Chris, and all the other RAT, stay focused and appreciate your short time here. Prioritize your academics first, stay out of trouble, and everything else will slide right into place. Matt, Usual Time had ridiculous conversations, and you have the same appreciation for blatant sarcasm as I do. I know we made Drew, Will, and Lee proud. Rich you're one crazy dude that has provided us with many great stories and you're always down for a drinking game—especially Pain. John, you are the only person I know who sleeps in proper uniform, but you're a genuine dude. Thanks for letting us out at the house all these years and putting up with everyone's antics. Jamie, life was always interesting with you around. To the rest of the Family—Yeo! JB, Andrew, Wayne, Clayton, PMack, Pat, Shawn, KB, and whoever else I'm missing. You guys made this place worth it and helped break up the mindless monotony of VMI. I couldn't ask for a more outrageous group of friends, and wouldn't want to.

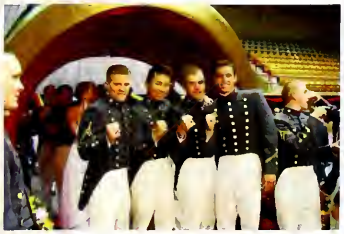
DYKE 2006: Andrew M. Neckman
RAT 2012: Chris Rossie

Nathanael R. Salatin

Swope, Virginia
Economics and Business
Marine Corps

Looking back over the four years that it has been since I signed the VMI matriculation book, I realize that my journey has not been a normal one. Unfortunately, I have missed much of those four years with my BRs. Between two combat deployments and a semester of study abroad in Europe, I just was not around as much as I would have liked to have been. However, the experiences that I did have at VMI will last a life time. The ratline, breakout, my awesome roommates, friends, and Ring Figure are memories that I will never forget. VMI saw some of the highest and lowest points of my life so far and while I am not yet finished, I can't help but feel like the best times are behind me as my '09 BRs will not be there when I get home this time. I want to congratulate, thank, and wish the best for my Class of 2009. I will miss you all and cannot wait to see each one of you again down the road.

DYKE 2006: Casey Jones
RAT 2012: N/A



Brian E. Sandridge
"Sandman", "Bsand"
Brownsburg, Virginia
Business and Economics
Air Force

Base Co.

In my time here I have made some great friends and learned some valuable life lessons. To my BaseCo. Boys: Its been a great run and I couldn't have asked to make any better friends than you guys. BaseCo. '09

Peter D. Saragnese
"Petey"
South Brunswick, New Jersey
International Studies
Marine Corps

Cadre, Club Ice hockey, Club Lacrosse

John M. Saunders
"John Saun"
Fredericksburg, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Air Force

I can't believe it has already been four years. I have learned so much here and I cannot have imagined my life without VMI. My roommates, Andy, Bish, Josh, and Ross, you all are my best friends. You have taught me and helped me in more ways than you will ever know. Mom and Dad, thank you for always being there and helping me become the person I am today. I love you. Grandpa, thank you for inspiring me and sharing your stories about all of the "good" times. I first learned about the "Brother RAT" spirit from you. To my rats, never take a day here for granted. Take everything this place has to offer and embrace it. Your brother rats are always in your corner. Greet every challenge with an open mind and positive attitude. Make sure that when you leave, you leave with no regrets, and you leave this place better than you found it.

DYKE 2006: Jonathan Wilson
RAT 2012: Chase Worthington, Alan Watts

DYKE 2006: Terrence E. Slack
RAT 2012: Jordan Iida, Aaron Remai

DYKE 2006: Eric Bliss
RAT 2012: Ross Stolle

Thomas M. Saunders

"Action Tom", "Mamma Tom"
Richmond, Virginia
Biology
Army

VMI Theater, The Council, CQRB 4-Square, Little John '09

It has been something of an epic journey my friends. Whether that epicness has been from how long these days have seemed or how many movie and song quotes were dropped in a single minute, I cannot tell. I remember many events in our time here, but those that seem to plot the journey through the sea of semesters are those moments where creative genius erupted from our concrete stoops. I remember first playing guitar with Ben as a rat. Plunking rather than plucking out the opposite of tasteful tunes, JT teaching me how to beatbox and free style, Stu introducing me to new heavier rock music, and Chris showing me a breakdancing move or two. Then we formed the band, the Stoop Orderlies, as thirds with Ben and Bryce on guitar and Stu and Steve on spoons and jug. We sang about ratline blues, we jammed with three guitars, and it kept my soul at peace. As seconds Bryce and Pat opened my mind to sounds of the 60s and 70s. I joined old friends to hear the Red Hot Chili Peppers live, Chris taught me the V-walk, and we sang "Doo Wa Diddy Diddy" to '09's class dinner. Your creativity Erik, Chris and Justin gave a man his dream job. Theatre has always been a constant in my life here and this final semester has been no exception as you all are part of it. Thanks for sharing in that dream too and of course Joellen. Thanks to those who have been models for me to emulate: Ryan Smith '07 and Chuck Freeman '07. There are so many more memories that we'll remember or my journals will. Friends you welcomed me individually, let me help you through your challenges, and celebrate your victories. I, from a nervous rat to a proud dyke and a man rich in friendship, am content, but eager for the new challenges we will face together. Now we stand by each other wondering perhaps what will be of the Council in our lifetimes to come. We can always trust that each of us will be there when another calls.

DYKE 2006: Tyler Monger
RAT 2012: Thomas Winders

Aaron P. Sayers

"Strong Arm", "Aaron P"
Cranesville, Pennsylvania
Mathematics
Marine Corps

Semper Fi Society, Marathon Club

VMI certainly offered me the challenge I was looking for when I came here four years ago. I've had some great experiences and learned a lot about myself. I will take a piece of VMI with me wherever I go and I feel I am a better person for it.

I am forever grateful to my parents who have been unwavering in their support for me. I'd like to give a special thank-you to my professors, each of whom has taken an interest in my success and invested themselves in it. I'd also like to thank the leaders in the corps and staff who have devoted themselves to giving me a constructive and rewarding cadetship.

I'll always cherish the time I've had with my brother rats. They're the best of friends and a second family. The bonds we've formed are a defining aspect of my cadetship. I wish them all the best.

My final thanks go to Sarah, the love of my life and the source of my determination. She has been my inspiration through difficult times and my companion in triumph.

DYKE 2006: Clinton T. Thompson
RAT 2012: RAT of Room 154.

David G. Schlaseman

Falls Church, Virginia
History
Army

NCAA Track & Field, NCAA Cross Country, Club Basketball, Club Skeet & Trap Team, Ranger Challenge

VMI lives up to its name as being an institution and sometimes I forget that I am actually in college. Every VMI cadet is indoctrinated into a military system with no civilian undergraduate or graduate programs. Nevertheless the abnormal and difficult lifestyle that we cadets endure daily is what makes this place unique. While other college students party and live carefree lifestyles VMI cadets are preparing for the real world. We learn integrity, discipline, honor, and accept the results of our actions. I don't regret going to VMI because I understand the long term benefits of it. I want to thank my family for supporting me while here, especially for all the times they visited on a weekend or drove down to pick me up. I will never forget the friends that I made nor will I ever forget my brother rats. Good luck to my rats and here is to the best class in barracks '09!

"A Soldier Prays For Peace, But Prepares For War"

DYKE 2006: Philip C. Hahn
RAT 2012: Vinny Jarells, Ethan Hiltbold

Josef M. Schroeder

"Schroederbot"
Redmond, Washington
Mechanical Engineering
Navy

Marathon Club

I only have a few sincere thoughts that I am willing to share in this writing. I am very grateful for the friends I have here at VMI. I've come to the point where I feel like my roommates are almost a second family. There is incredible value in the relationships one gains while enduring the VMI system. For all my roommates (including rat roommate), close friends, and co-dykes, here's to you: I wish you the best, hope to stay in touch, and see you all many times after closing this chapter of our lives. This comes from that former stranger you all saw on matriculation day who was odd enough to show up with sideburns. As for the rats in the room...stay focused on your goals and ambitions. You'll only get out of this place what you put into it. Finally, I must express my great appreciation for the support from my family. Though they were at the opposite corner of the country, their frequent visits and calls throughout all four years have been a significant positive influence on my life here at VMI. Words alone can not describe the gratitude I have for my family.

Jacob C. Schultheis

Parkersburg, West Virginia
English
Army

Cadet Investment Group President, English Society, VMI Boxing, Private

What a long, strange trip its been. My friends; you are my brothers and I hope that I have influenced your lives as much as you have influenced mine. It's been real, it's been fun, but it hasn't been real fun. I know this is just the beginning, keep on livin'. My professors; thank you for teaching me how to think, I'm forever indebted to you. My family; thank you for supporting my arduous adventures, I couldn't ask for better kin.

"The future's uncertain and the end is always near"

Jim Morrison

"There is a road, no simple highway, between the dawn and the dark of night, and if you go, no one may follow, that path is for your steps alone"

Jerry Garcia

Ava A. Schultz

Valencia, California
International Studies

The Cadet 4.3, Cadre 3, Marathon Club 2, RAT Challenge 1, NCMT 2,1

"Achieving life is not the equivalent of avoiding death."

-Ayn Rand

DYKE 2006: Nicholas C. O'Connor
RAT 2012: Gabe Dongieux

DYKE 2006: Zane H. Irby
RAT 2012: Alex Benedick

DYKE 2006: Robyn Schaperjahn
RAT 2012: Janna Coleman, Kelly Burns

Noah L. W. Scribner

"Scribs", "Scribdaddy"
Armonk, New York
Mathematics, History
Army

Ranger Challenge 3,2; Head Cadet Librarian; 5th Corporal; Cadre PLT Sergeant; Lieutenant; Cadet Writer 2; Cadet Editor 1; Mess Hall Committee 2,1.

This has been an interesting four years. I cannot believe that I am finished with VMI. This feeling of joy and elation is joined with a feeling of nervousness. I know that I would not have made it without the support and love from my parents and grandparents whose confidence in me has never wavered. My two sisters always kept me humble and striving to be the best kept me striving. But as graduation comes I know that I will miss my roommates, Phil, Steve, James, and even you Mike. Our room was definitely one of the best. We had such great fun, though we got on one another's nerves. I hope that our time together is forgotten during our time apart. To my co-dykes, we had a great time. We always lived the 123 spirit. My rat Steve, keep the course and keep bettering yourself. The greener pastures are there, just keep going, and you will arrive. Remember to have a smile about it. You were a great rat, you have made me proud. Looking back at the four years of VMI I have to say that some moments were definitely better than others. And some people here were better than others, but all are great stories. Lighting half the room on fire rat year was thrilling. Ring Figure and the nut-tapping incident that ensued. The horrors of MS3 Spring FTX and LDAC keep me thankful for a nice, warm, dry blanket. But the best year was definitely First Class year. I reached the pinnacle of cadetship, ready to take on the challenges of post VMI life in the Army. Overall I will miss VMI. It has been the home for us the past four years.

DYKE 2006: Dave Kimsey
RAT 2012: Steven Lyle

Benjamin A. Scudder

Petersburg, Virginia
Psychology
Army

DYKE 2006: Thomas P. Bradford
RAT 2012: Greg Hellenga

Julian P. Sculley

Yorktown, Virginia
Chemistry
Air Force

Phi Kappa Phi, S4 Private, Ring Figure committee

What is VMI really all about? It's about some great guys, some 'how did we get so freakin lucky' stories, and more laughs than anyone can handle. It's about late nights in the Science building and sitting in a car in a dark alley. It's about remembering stories and not remembering anything. It's about doing it all and getting out of everything. It's about chillin' cans in the dorm room and burnin' throats in the boiler room. Sometimes you have to start before breakfast and sometimes continue right through the game. How bad was it? Somewhere between not getting away often enough and missing it when you leave. It's about that feeling you get when you see the back side of barracks and that feeling skirt got during hell week. Always remember that the closest friends are made while laughing and enjoying that cynical, sarcastic, warped sense of humor we just can't get away from anymore. Was it really the worst thing that could happen to anyone... Ever? Probably, but opinions are always treason.

DYKE 2006: Mike Werner
RAT 2012: Walter Coughlan

Kurt J. Seidl

"Number 1"
Manassas, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Air Force

Ice Hockey, RAT Challenge, NCMT, CWRT, TCM, Private

So four years are finally over, it has not been an easy four years, and not exactly fun, but definitely something to remember for the rest of my life. Thanks to my parents and sisters for supporting me through the tough times. Thanks to all my brother rats that have helped me these four years and thanks especially to my roommates (Tom, Drew, and Ira) the TCM and the realm; without you all this place would have been a lot worse. Good luck in the future. To the rats of 172: study hard, this is a school, you need to graduate but remember to have fun at the same time. Rules were meant to be broken, just learn how not to get caught, and if you do get caught, remember that the worst thing they can do is bone you.

DYKE 2006: Jeff Gilmore
RAT 2012: Tim Gregory, Robert Hale

Shannon D. Sellers

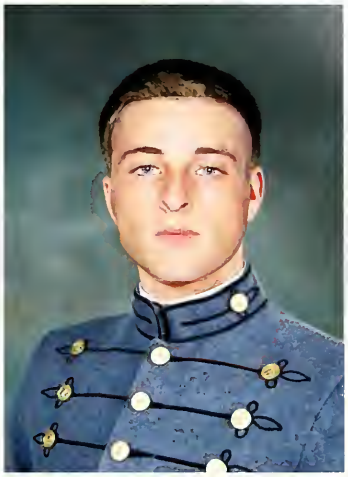
"Shawdy"
Riverdale, Georgia
Psychology
Air Force

Track and Field

Many people didn't think I would make it here but, I MADE IT!

"Life only demands from you the strength you possess. Only one feat is possible - not to have run away."
- Dag Hammarskjold (1905-1961)

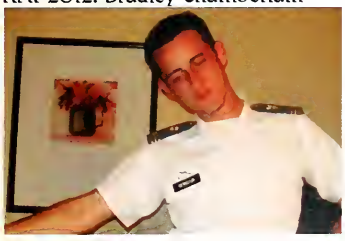
DYKE 2006: Lezshell A. Mackall
RAT 2012: Kaity Harrison



Jordan M. Seymour

St. Augustine, Florida
English
Army

DYKE 2006: Dan Osborn
RAT 2012: Bradley Chamberlain



Tauseef N. Sheikh

"Beast from the East"
Lahore, Pakistan
Modern Languages and Cultures
Air Force

Bodybuilding Club, International Club, International Honor Society

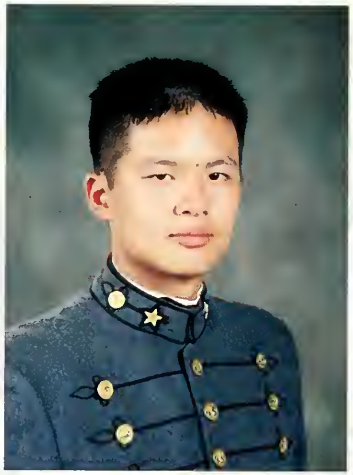
I don't like to brag too much about VMI, but credit must be given where credit is due. I must confess that at times I hated the daily life at the Institute, but looking back on it, I owe a lot to this organization which at times has been compared to a fascist regime. Although I have had serious doubts in the past, in hindsight I am glad I came to this "special" and "unique" environment which taught me the priceless skills of time management and multi-tasking. I learned to face adversity in the face and take it head-on and let's not forget the sense of brotherhood that comes from showering with your brother rats at the end of an exhausting, mind-numbing day.

I have been a private for all 4 years of my cadetship and was far from what one might call a "role model cadet," but I believe I have learned values that might be a bit more important and useful than how to shine shoes so they look like coroframs and I know these will serve me a lot better in life, however, having said that…one must not underestimate the satisfaction of being able to look into your own shoes and see your reflection in it.

To my rats - thank you for being good lil' rat-ties and always doing your duties. I graduate from the Virginia Military Institute with no regrets and I leave you with this quote that has motivated me to rise up every time I've fallen and believe my I've had my fair share of falls.

Success is going from failure to failure without a loss of enthusiasm.

DYKE 2006: Michael W. Forster
RAT 2012: Santana, Garcia



Wei-Yu Shih

"Crasian", "Shihman"
Yunlin, Taiwan
Chemistry
Air Force

Men's Volleyball

For a guy who had never been to a foreign country before, it was a really special experience that the main purpose for my first visit to another country was matriculating to Virginia Military Institute. I went through the four-year cadetship as an exchange student. Before I came here, the Taiwanese military trained me to be more adapted to the environments. Then, VMI trained me how to speak English..... and drove me nuts. Therefore, I became a crasain. The hardest part for me was the language barrier. The first day I came to VMI, cadres told my rat roommate Justin Tammelin to teach me how to speak English. When we talk about that story nowadays, we both smile. The ratline actually passed by very fast, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and then it was time to breakout. Breakout meant a lot to us: instead of 2006-3, Class 2009 is formed. Today, we are the ones leading the Institute; we have, and we will make the institute be proud of us. I am so lucky to be a part of the Class 2009 RAT, you are the ones to carry on what we have done and spread out the fame of the institute. You all built the brotherhood during the ratline, and it's time for you to enjoy the sweetness together. Never give up your friendship between your brother rats. You are THE VMI Class 2012. More than my BRs, I have many families here. My roommates' families, my best friends' families, thank you for treating me as your son. I don't feel homesick while I have you all around. During the ratline, there was a very important person who kept boosting the morale for me when I was low-spirited. She is my current girlfriend, Xin-Min Yang. Thank you very much for cheering on me when I need it. Xin-Min, I love you. Last but not the least, Mom, Dad, thank you for stopping me from going to the police academy. I would not have a change to become a member of class 2009 if I went to the police academy. Thank you for supporting me at VMI. I love you!

DYKE 2006: Wei-Yin Chang
RAT 2012: Chan-Yi Liao

Bradley J. Simpson

"B-Rad"
Roanoke, Virginia
Business and Economics
Air Force

Big Red Club President, Ring Figure Committee, 2009 Social Chair, Alpha Company Cadre, Hardcore Alpha.

First above all, I would like to thank God for the chance to attend VMI, without Him I would have never made it through. Second, I would like to thank my parents for everything that they have done to support me; through the good and the bad, they have been there no matter what. Whether it was the random trips from Roanoke, being on the parade deck before I even woke up for BRC on Saturdays to tailgate, trips to Wal-Mart, or sending LTC Levenson brownies to keep 122 out of trouble, it has never gone un-noticed. you have sacrificed a lot, and for that I am truly grateful. Major Baker, I want to thank you for always being there for me. When the BU/EC department got me down, you were always there to tell me how much Duke sucks or how Tennessee will never win again, and you always had a way of making me smile. You have been a tremendous mentor, thank you for everything you have done for me. I truly would have never made it through the department without you. Matt, thank you for being such a great roommate for three years. I could not have had a better person to spend the good and bad with. To Trent, Chris, and Kyle, living in 122 with you guys has been a blast; I couldn't have done it without each of you. You guys are the best friends I could ever ask for; YOU made this place bearable. I wish all of you the best of luck in the future and wish you all the success you could ever want. To all of the Alpha crew, thank you for always being there for me. I would have never wanted to be in another company. I could have never made it through the four years of this place without each and every one of you. To the rats of 122: CJ, Franklin, Aaron, Kevin, Justin, and Adrian, ALWAYS remember what we have taught you. We have tried our hardest to teach you right from the wrong, now it's your turn to carry on our legacy, make us proud. Keep your head up and keep on keeping on. All of you will make fine cadets, for years to come.

DYKE 2006: Chris Stone
RAT 2012: CJ McDonald

Travis Smink

Dalmatia, Pennsylvania
Psychology
Air Force

VMI Baseball

Justin R. Smith

Hanson, Massachusetts
Mechanical Engineering
Navy

Shannon D. Smith

"Shan-Diz"
Alexandria, Virginia
International Studies
Air Force

Newspaper

"If I could offer you only one tip for the future, sunscreen would be it. The long term benefits of sunscreen have been proved by scientists whereas the rest of my advice has no basis more reliable than my own meandering experience. Don't worry about the future; or worry, but know that worrying is as effective as trying to solve an algebra equation by chewing bubblegum. The real troubles in your life are apt to be things that never crossed your worried mind; the kind that blindside you at 4pm on some idle Tuesday. Do one thing every day that scares you. Sing. Don't be reckless with other peoples hearts, don't put up with people who are reckless with yours. Don't waste your time on jealousy; sometimes you're ahead, sometimes you're behind. The race is long, and in the end, it's only with yourself. Remember the compliments you receive, forget the insults; if you succeed in doing this, tell me how. Stretch. Don't feel guilty if you don't know what you want to do with your life. The most interesting people I know didn't know at 22 what they wanted to do with their lives, some of the most interesting 40 year olds I know still don't. Get plenty of calcium. Be kind to your knees, you'll miss them when they're gone. Maybe you'll marry, maybe you won't, maybe you'll have children, maybe you won't, maybe you'll divorce at 40, maybe you'll dance the funky chicken on your 75th wedding anniversary. Whatever you do, don't congratulate yourself too much or berate yourself either – your choices are half chance, so are everybody elses. Dance. Even if you have nowhere to do it but in your own living room. Read the directions, even if you don't follow them. Get to know your parents, you never know when they'll be gone for good. Be nice to your siblings; they are the best link to your past and the people most likely to stick with you in the future. But trust me on the sunscreen..."

DYKE 2006: Kelly M. Sweppenhiser

DYKE 2006: James F. White

DYKE 2007: Raevon Pulliam
RAT 2012: Raquel Sanchez

Kevin M. Snevely

Oakton, Virginia
Psychology
Navy

RAT Challenge (1,2,3,4), Psychology Club (1,2,3,4), Philosophy Club (2,3,4), College Republicans (1,2), Cadet Newspaper (2,3)

Take a lot of weekends.

Thanks Mom, thanks Dad, thanks Tuck, thanks Elsa, thanks Grammie, thanks John, thanks Joe, thanks Kerry, thanks Tucky, thanks Natalie, thanks Rocky, thanks Dublin, thanks Tonka. Thanks Jeff, thanks Ryan, thanks Chris. RAT, remember what I told you.

DYKE 2006: Jeffrey J. Gilmore
RAT 2012: Joel Chapman, Mike Strobo

Durham J. Snuffin

Harrisonburg, Virginia
English
Air Force

Golf Club, Cadre, English Honors Society,

I must say, I came to VMI for an experience of a lifetime and that is exactly what it has been. I truly believe life is about stories. When I am old and grumpy I want to be able to sit in a chair and talk to other old grumpy men about wild stories of my youth. VMI has given me plenty of stories, some of which I would rather not remember and some I hope to never forget. Through the many early mornings and very late nights I have learned to manage my time, multi task, and most importantly gained a wealth of knowledge on personal pranks. I have also learned to not believe everything I hear because, thanks to extreme boredom, rumors spread like wild fire. There is an intangible gift this school has given me. It's a feeling that whatever life puts in my way, I will be able to succeed. VMI has taught me that life isn't always fair, but if I keep trying I will one day realize my goals and be a better man for it. I will certainly miss the Institute, which has been my home for the better part of the last four years. But my loss does not come without many gains. I can honestly say this institute has given me a strong character, integrity, a great work ethic, and most importantly— lifelong friends.

To my roommates: It has been an interesting adventure but I wouldn't change it for the world. Always remember... nose goes

To my rat: You have been a great rat and an even better friend. It is now your responsibility to be the danceman...I have no doubt you will!

DYKE 2006: Charlie Brennan
RAT 2012: D'Angelo Smith

Alexander J. Snyder

"Al", "Albe"
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Chemistry
Air Force

S-1 Captain, Bravo Ops Sgt, Bravo Cpl, RAT Challenge ACIC (07-08)

As I inched towards graduation, I came to the realization that a complete summary and reflection of my time at the Institute was impossible to draft. Words and sentences cannot describe the constant battle a four year cadetship entails. However, the lessons I have learned because of the pains I have endured are priceless and unique to the VMI experience. I would not changed one thing about my cadetship everything served a purpose. Perhaps one day I will be able to explain my feelings and situation, but certainly not now as I write this short narrative. The Paisans: Our dinner conversations brought me more laughter than I can explain. We will have to reunite later in life to continue the genius, but profanity laced, discussions much was learned by all. All of you are my best friends. THE 126: We were a thorn in the Institutes side. Our shade will forever remain pulled. I appreciate all of you accepting me into your room after Hank graduated early. The Chemistry Department: I appreciate the humbling academic experience that all of you afforded me. I am grateful for the relationship I had with every professor in the department. Doc Jones you are the man, continue to mentor and develop students just as you did with me. To the 'Lers: For giving me something to hope and believe in and a connection to home Mom and Dad, I thank you for raising me with high moral character and never letting me take the easy way out. You were hard on me but it made me who I am today. I thank you for affording me the opportunity to attend VMI. I could not have done this without you. Brothers and Sisters, being the middle child made me tough enough to endure these hardships. My Fiance, Brittany: After dating me for my entire cadetship, I do believe you also had a full VMI experience. Your love and care for me helped through some of the toughest times of my life. I most certainly appreciate your patience – I love you.

DYKE 2006: John Mundt
RAT 2012: Joel Hutchens

Charles D. Snyder

"Chuck", "Charlie"
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Civil & Environmental Engineering
Air Force

Swimming

My years here have been a non-stop learning experience. Yeah, I learned a lot in the classes I took though my GPA may not accurately reflect that fact. But, I have also learned a lot from experiences outside the classroom. I have learned exactly how not to treat people if I am trying to earn their respect. I have also learned how to be a decent human being despite less than favorable circumstances. This place has left me with many memories which I will be able to draw on and apply to life after VMI. In closing, and for Mitch Ress I would like to sum up my time here with a lyric from the Grateful Dead song titled Truckin'. "What a long, strange trip it's been."

DYKE 2006: Tom Zager
RAT 2012: Mike Fiorelli

Christopher D. Somma

Williamsburg, Virginia
History
Air Force

NCMT 3,2,1; RAT challenge 3, 2, 1; VMI ERT 3,2,1; Big Brother 2; Color Cpl; Color Sgt; First Class Pvt; Cadet Tour Guide 3,2; Ring Design Co-Chair 2.

One of the first questions someone asked me after Matriculation was why am I here. To this I can not offer some great reason. Fact is, I came here because I made the decision in 6th Grade and stuck with it. Over my four years I have adapted to the system, sometimes loving it, other times hating it, but always taking pride in the ideals it represents. For all its problems (The never-ending fight between some in the Corps and the administration, or some in the Corps and others in the Corps) VMI has in many ways become my home. Most people I know here are like family to me; and on occasion I have had great deals of fun here. Other times the only redeeming thing was the quote that I have heard from countless alumni, "A bad place to be, a great place to be from". There are several people I would like to thank: my family (especially my mom who has always been supportive), my Brother RAT and members of the other classes and my rats, Earl and Eric, to whom the rest of this is directed. To my RAT; remember, after putting up with four years of VMI, everything else is easier. I hope you understand something that I did not realize until later in my cadetship. This is that there was never a time when all was perfect at VMI. There was never a time when the Administration heard the ideas of all cadets or when all cadets took pride in being here. That being said, strive for perfection in yourself, try to change the wrongs that you see, but realize that not everyone will care as much as you do and some things just will not get fixed. In closing, I have come to realize that VMI is a place that only those who attend can truly understand. Outsiders may grasp certain parts, but unless you have been through a similar system, you can only imagine what VMI is really like.

"He is best who is trained in the severest school"

DYKE 2006: Tim Helmick
RAT 2012: Earl Ballowe, Eric Mehaffey

Ryan G. Spahr

Annandale, Virginia
International Studies
Air Force

NCAA Swimming

Study abroad was awesome. No matter where I go in the world I will always remember my brother rats. Honor those who have fought in wars protecting our country. Never forget the traditions.

DYKE 2006: James Donovan
RAT 2012:

Kelsey L. Stafford

Charlottesville, Virginia
Biology
Army

Well first off, I have to thank my family. Mom, Dad, Sam and Andy. I couldn't have gone through all this without any of you. You all have been so supportive all the way through; I appreciate it all so much. Christina, I couldnt have asked for a better roommate of four years. There are so many memories that we have had together that I know I'll never forget. And I'm sure there are many more to come. Hannah, you have made these last two years of running possible, and have had many fun experiences! Hang in there, and get out and have some fun whenever you can! These past four years have definitely been an experience that will stay with me and one that will shape me for the rest of my life. I've laughed, cried, fought, yelled, and everything in-between. I know that no matter what craziness and hardships that we all had to go through here, it just makes us stronger for it. However, I am sad to leave behind three unique, amazing rats. Jenn, you can do absolutely anything you want at this school, the sky's the limit, so don't ever settle. Carrie, you can go so far with your attitude and exuberance, keep smiling and never let anything at this crazy place changes that amazing personality of yours. Silvia, you have so much potential, stay strong girl. You are absolutely beautiful; don't let anyone ever tell you differently. And Jenna, you were like my fourth rat. Have a blast here, no matter what anyone says and don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone every once and a while. You all have made me so proud, I couldn't have asked for better rats. Well, my time is up. I suppose if I had to choose one thought to leave everyone with, it would be this. "Go confidently into the direction of your dreams, and live the life you imagined.' Thoreau... And that's exactly what I plan to do....

DYKE 2007: Hatley Clifford
RAT 2012: Carrie Wortham, Silvia Madron

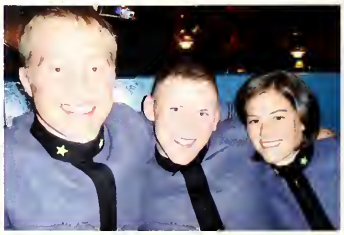
Christina L. Stalnaker

"Tina", "Stone", "X"
Newport News, Virginia
Chemistry
Army

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, Vice President of Investigations: Cadet Equity Association, Hotel Company Executive Officer, The Navigators, American Chemical Society, Cheerleading, Ranger Challenge

The most valuable lesson I've learned during my cadetship is to take adversity straight on in order to let it make you better, not bitter. Many people I know have let VMI or the people at VMI get under their skin and they let it eat them up inside. At times I have let this institution take my identity away from me, too. I forgot who I really was inside. But as General Jackson said, "You may be whatever you resolve to be." Only you can define yourself. I have been fortunate enough to have enough AMAZING friends here to let me forget about the enemies. I want to thank all of my friends (I don't need to name you or give shout outs, y'all know who you are!) for constantly reminding me that I am the only one that can define myself. Without all of you I would have turned bitter, but instead I will graduate knowing that we have had nothing but good times here together. I wish all of you the very best of luck and hope to keep in touch with everyone. Words that I live by:Everything is OKAY in the end. If its not okay.... Its just not the end yet.Micah & Sam: You two are both beautiful, intelligent women and I know you will accomplish so much here. I am so glad that I have gotten to be your dyke and so thankful for all that you have done for me!!! Keep on trucking. Keep me informed on all of your many successes to come! I love you both -3 Hollywood RAT: Thank you so much for such a great year. You all worked so hard for us and should be proud of all you've accomplished together. I can't wait to hear about where you all end up as you work your way down to the first stoop. Never forget to stay true to yourselves and each other.

DYKE 2006: Mary K. Osborne
RAT 2012: Micah Coate, Samantha Farr



Trevor V. Stanco

Garden City, New York
Business and Economics
Navy

Cadet Investment Group and Varsity Swimming

August '05—that's a long road back.One Hell Week, dozens of screaming cadre, penalties and 15 pounds later, VMI had begun to whittle me into shape. . .only the start though. For a coddled boy from Long Island, these years have been a mind-boggling adventure! True there was always a knot in my stomach coming to Exit 191 on 81, with the turrets of VMI looming, but the Mother I had her hold. What can I say, rat challenges, the Crucible and pulling Willie and Travis down the river, taking tubes down the Maury during the summer, study breaks to Wal-Mart, the Southern Inn or wherever out of barracks, Hotel Company's amazing Christmas lights and the music after hours—all indelible in my book. It was a welcome breather to take leave to study in Seville where my Espanola and acquaintance with cervesa expanded. I may have been a little shell-shocked those first weeks of my re-entry, but it all came back to me as I climbed to the third stoop. One week that won't be forgotten in Ring Figure. You gotta love the tradition and progression down to the first stoop! I enjoyed the movie nights, week night drinks with Brush, storytelling with Andrew Rice, live with Alex Oliver and always having great teachers to support me. The Economics and Business department gave me a tough learning experience with the excellent teaching from Col. Bush's eccentric classes, to Major Baker's passion and ability to engage us all. On-the-road times with Coach and the team provided some relief from the rigor and rules, and of course we have those 2 conference titles. Teammates Alex Brush, Steven Russell and the guys in lane one, you made the workouts bearable. Meeting every Monday night with the investment group was been the greatest hands-on experience. To the rats of room C11, Garret, Jacob, and especially Byron, our pleasure to break you in. You did well and keep it up.

DYKE 2006: Mike Morris
RAT 2012: Byron Relyea

Daniel Stanislawski

"Stan", "Polska", "Ski", "Big Stan"
Waynesboro, Virginia
Civil & Environmental Engineering
Army

Club Soccer 4; Bodybuilding Club 3,2; Tau Beta Pi; SAME Member; Delta Company Cadre; 1st Platoon Lt 1; Operations Sergeant 2; 3rd Corporal 3.

It's kind of hard to believe that this is all coming to an end. Although it did seem like an eternity during some periods of my cadetship, when I take time to reflect upon it now, I feel as though time really has flown by. From the rat line on to being a dyke it really was a wild experience that I will neither forget nor regret. I will never forget the memories and friendships that I forged from the ratline with my maddogs from Delta Company. Also, the moments that I've shared with my roommates over the past few years, Jarrett, Josh, and of course Ben, will never be forgotten. I've even learned to appreciate the usual chaotic classroom moments with my CE brother rats. Without these people at VMI I don't know how my cadetship would have panned out and it is for this reason that I am thankful for all that you all have done for me. Now its time to give some advice to my rat and best friend, Boris. I'm proud of you for what you have done during your short time at VMI. Keep up the good name of the dyke line that began with my dyke, Andrew. Keep your head up, your time at VMI is relatively short and make sure you take the time to stay close to your brother rats, for they are what help you through your experience at the 'I.' On that note, I must say it will be sad leaving my brother rats, however a new chapter is ahead for all of us. No need to worry about me though, I'm heading off to graduate school to finally experience that real college life ;-) . Well, good luck to all my maddogs, brother rats, roommates, and last but not least to the rats of room 119!

DYKE 2006: Andrew Dernovsek
RAT 2012: Boris Duvnjak

Thomas B. Stauffer

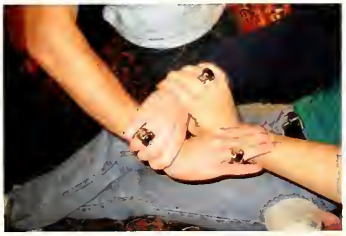
"Tom", "Barbero"
Greensboro, North Carolina
History, International Studies
Army

RAT Challenge Cadre, Guideon, OGA, TCM.

To all of my family and friends back home who have helped me in the past four years, thank you so much, it has meant more than I can express. To all of my roommates and friends here, you are the best guys I know and I couldn't have done it without you. I wouldn't trade the times I had with you for anything in the world. To my RAT, you guys have been great and good luck, don't let this place get the best of you.

"Yelling at a VMI Cadet is like spitting into the Ocean"

DYKE 2006: Christopher S. Chase
RAT 2012: Matt Dickinson, Sam White



Brian T. Steel

"The Bear", "Steelio", "Big Steel"
Chilhowie, Virginia
History and Economics/Business
Air Force

Club Golf Team, Hotel Company Clerk, Hotel Company First Sergeant, Sigma Beta Delta

I began this journey by myself, but finishing it with friends that will last a lifetime. There are no words that can explain VMI, but I will give it a shot. I once thought VMI would make me a better person through inspections, mandatory classes, and a strict honor code. However, I learned that I was the one who made me who I am today. Although VMI helped me along in the process, it was me who eventually made the final decisions on the path I would take in life. With that said, I would have never made it through this school without family, friends, and a dedicated faculty. To the class of 2009, thank you for the great memories that we will always share. To my family, I will always remember the love and support that you have given me throughout my life, especially throughout the past four years. Mom and Dad, thank you for letting me go on matriculation day and never having any doubts on what I could accomplish. Jake thank you for always being there for me throughout all of our ups and downs. To Nathan, Andrew, and Alex, there are no words to describe our senior year living together. I will always remember Nathan slobbering on his pillow, Andrew modeling himself after Glenn Beck, and Alex measuring himself at night. That is just a small sample of the memories I will take with me. For the past four years, I could always come back to the room and let all my troubles go to the wayside because there was always someone there to help me through the high and low points of my cadetship. To my rats, you have made my senior year less burdensome, while at the same time, teaching me lessons that have allowed me to mature. I will never be able to replace these years. Although I am happy to leave, I will never take these four years for granted. I can't wait to see where everyone in our class ends up; Good luck in the endeavors you choose in life.

DYKE 2006: Kyle Lynch
RAT 2012: Ben Howard, George Jamerson

Christopher A. Sterbenz, Jr.

Oakton, Virginia
History
Army

My past four years at VMI have taught me to fight through adversity and reach this great milestone. Without the support of my brother rats, parents, and fiancé I wouldn't be in the position I am in today. After VMI I will spend the next four years in the Army as a transportation officer building off of my experiences at the Institute. I am ready for what the future will bring and proud to be a VMI alumnus.

Neil A. Stewart

"Adam", "Moses", "Stewy"

Richmond, Virginia
Mechanical Engineering
Army

EMT Cadet in charge, 3 years Lexington Rescue, 3.5 years ERT, Marathon Club, 2 years English Society.

After it's all over, I can say it was worth it. I've been fortunate to have great roommates and great friends every year I've been here. A special thanks to everyone who, through the last four years supported me every step of the way. Mom and Dad thanks for everything. SHAUN who? SHAUN JONES I would talk about the great things we've done but they are not appropriate to be publicly read. Shaun, Curt Ivins, Jeff Parker, you welcomed me here and taught me what you knew. I'm grateful for the time we spent together. Now for some co-dyke loving, TaDuncafish, in the end it was just you and me. Jed we truly went through VMI together. 154 Roomies: Aaron, Greg, Gordon, and Jed. Here's to us. All the guys, there's too many to list and I know what would happen if I forget somebody. I won't attempt that summersault. Brendan, you've come a long ways, take what you learn here and apply it. I'm confident in you. Rob, Travis, Mike, and, Christian make the best out of the time you have here. Congrats class of 2009. In conclusion: Do something with your life. Cheers.

Brandon M. Stillo

Phillipsburg, New Jersey
Civil & Environmental Engineering
Air Force

DYKE 2006: Mike Maleski
RAT 2012: Andrew Deal

DYKE 2006: Shaun Jones
RAT 2012: Brendan Honeychuck

DYKE 2006: Michael D. Werner
RAT 2012: N/A

Graham M. Stolle

"Young Sneezy", "Old Man"
Virginia Beach, Virginia
International Studies
Navy

Science and Security, College Republicans, Model Arab League.

As we approach graduation I think to myself, what memories would I have if I did not transfer to VMI? I would not have memories of being in the front leaning rest on the stoop. I would have memories of grade A quality burgers instead I have memories of Crozet Mystery meat. I would have memories of the best Happy Hour deals around but rather I have memories of screaming Rat Bible knowledge. I matriculated a fat, lazy alcoholic, now . . . well some things never change.

Not for a second have I regretted coming to VMI. Not because of the ways I have changed but because of the people I have come to know. There have been hard time and fun times. We have all come here with many different goals. However, in the end we all come together with the one goal of graduating from VMI. It is not leaving on the weekends that I will remember, it is the pushing on the stoop after locking the thirds in their rooms. It is the sweat parties, it is the rings we earned. I thank all of my BRs for these great experiences I have received. I thank my family for their support and I thank VMI for only making this a four year institute.

DYKE 2006: Blake Faller
RAT 2012: Hunter Beasley, Craig Walman

Megan E. Strand

"Meg", "Mego"
Fredericksburg, Virginia
Biology
Air Force

NCAA Women's Soccer

Life is one big road with lots of signs. So when you are riding through the ruts, don't complicate your mind. Flee from hate, mischief and jealousy. Don't bury your thoughts, put your vision to reality. Wake Up and Live! –Bob Marley

These past four years have been an interesting experience to say the least. I want to give a shoutout to: my awesome roomies of 117- good luck in the real world ladies; my partner in crime on and off the field (Z Easy); my awesome rat (Cabs)- don't let people bring you down, the next few years go by fast so enjoy them the best you can; my lil Sis (Sarah) – I am going to miss playing with you and seeing you everyday, play hard and have fun!

DYKE 2007: Vanessa M. Berrios
RAT 2012: Gabby McCarron

John E. Tagg

Cary, North Carolina
International Studies
Army

DYKE 2006: Jason Long
RAT 2012:

Justin S. Tammelin

"Tam Tam", "Tammelin the Whirlwind"
Vestal, New York
History
Army

Rugby 4; Competition Pipe Team 3.

As four years come to a close and new chapter of our lives begin I will look back on my time here with mixed emotions. Some days I will hate it, and others I will love it. VMI has made the outside world easy. Over the past four years I have become good friends with a number of you and I take interest in your daily lives. You are the best friends anyone could ever ask for. To my Brother RAT, I wish you all the very best, and I am extremely proud to count myself among your ranks. You are true and you are noble to the end and I thank you. To my roommates, I consider you my family. We have shared our good times and our bad. If any of you ever need me I'll be there without question; even if that means flying to Taiwan. To my RAT, I consider all of you my rats. You should be proud of yourselves in what you have already accomplished. You are all on your way to becoming fine Keydets and good men. Remember don't judge someone on outward appearance alone because the character of a man is much more important. I am proud of all of you. To my family, thank you for supporting me through these last 4 years and not even asking for anything less then everything. Mom, Dad, Nicole I love you all very much. Finally to VMI Rugby, I have given you the past four years of my life, two shoulders, and unknown amounts of sweat and blood. I know and trust the players on this team and I thank all of you for your time and your effort. You are all very important to me and because of your friendships I stayed at VMI. I know you will do well under your new leadership and I have no doubt that all of your futures will prosper. Coach Howe Thank you. I hope that I have made a mark on the Institute over my time here and that my reputation is pleasing to all who hear it. I will miss you VMI, and I will not forget.

Alexa C. Tarbona

"T-Bone", "Tbeezy", "Bizz", "Big T"
Richmond, Virginia
English
Air Force

Drum Major, EN Society, Timmins Gentry Music Society, Big Brother Big Sister, QMD CIC, NCAA Women's Soccer, Club Softball

First and foremost, I need to thank my entire family for their love and support; their faith in me means more than words can describe. Next, I have to thank my very best friends from back home, Krista and Jessica. Though they may never read this, their understanding and love throughout this whole experience has taught me the value of strong, unshakable friendship. I love you both. Last and certainly not least, I need to thank all of my friends here at VMI, the ones who have stood by my side and experienced this odd place with me for the past four years. To my Brother RAT in Band Co, thank you for all of your love, support, and friendship—you are the greatest bunch of guy friends a girl could ask for. You're all my brothers, and I love you all. To the ladies in the Class of 2009, though we have lost many along the way, I am proud to be graduating with such a stellar selection of women, you will all do great things. To the plethora of roommates I've had, thank you for putting up with me, sober or otherwise. The greatest and most unforgettable memories here at VMI are with you all. To my underclass friends, it has been nothing short of amazing watching you all grow into yourselves, chins up until graduation, and best of luck in the future. To my beautiful roommate, Domonique, thank you so much for loving me no matter what. You deserve the best, and you will find it in time. I love you! To my very best friend, Jessica, thank you for loving me and supporting me through the best and worst times these past four years. You've been the greatest gift this place has brought me thus far. It has been a wild ride, and I wouldn't change a thing. I love you and I know you will do something amazing with your life. To my rat, Lucy, I am forever proud of you and good luck with the rest of your cadetship. It has been a pleasure to watch you grow this year, stay strong and keep smiling! RIP Ernest S. Washington 2-16-08

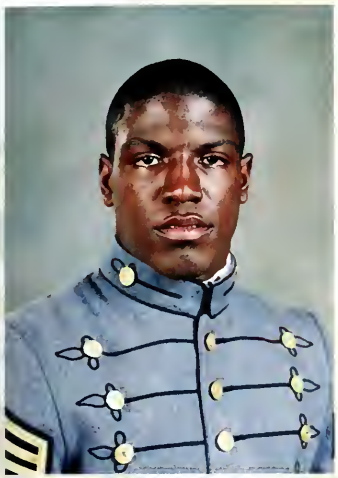
Joseph J. Taylor

Glen Allen, Virginia
Economics
Army

DYKE 2007: Christopher S. Chase
RAT 2012: Matt Harper

DYKE 2006: Robyn M. Schaperjahn
RAT 2012: Lucille B. Stratton

DYKE 2006: Jason T. Major
RAT 2012:



Keith L. Taylor, II

"Krunch"
Mechanicsville, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Air Force

VMI Football, RDC, Concrete Canoe, SAME

First of all I would to thank some people who really helped me to make it through this place: My parents without them I wouldn't be who I am, my girlfriend Melissa who has been the best girlfriend a guy could have, my boy D WOOD who is my best friend for life, and Pat McKinney who has stuck with me through long days at football practice and long nights in NEB. After being here for four years I have learned a lot and the biggest lesson is that NO ONE makes it through here alone. I have been blessed with a lot of friends in the place (ya'll know who you are). I also have to give a huge shout to the football team I have spent more time around you guys than anyone here and you guys have always been like family. I appreciate that.

As boring as we say this place is no one has more stories than the people I have met here, and by far we have the most entertaining stories. Don't get me wrong this place is boring at times and then there are those times when the crazy stories come into affect, I can defiantly say I have my fair share of them. I think the biggest lesson I have learned from all of that is that good things and good times can unexpectedly come from any place at anytime. I have had plenty of good times and plenty of bad times in my time here, I can honestly say that I would not trade any of theses experiences for anything all because of the people I have encountered while having them.

Zachary C. Tharp

"Zach", "Corpsman"
McGaheysville, Virginia
Chemistry
Air Force

Rugby Football Club, ERT, and Lexington Rescue

To my parents: Thank you for always being there for me, even when you didn't agree with the choices I made when it came to girls, school, or job choices. I owe you for molding me into the man I am today. So thanks again and I hope I continue to make you guys proud. To my roommates: Mello, you are my closest friend and a person whose opinion I value; thanks for all the advice throughout the years from matriculation day to graduation. "Wanna go out to eat?" Mar, thanks for all the good times, going out to meet girls and "I can handle it, I'm a sailor." Kari, last and definitely the shortest, you put up with a lot of abuse from Mello and me, but in the end we still loved each other. I wish you guys the best in years to come and cannot wait to run into you guys soon. To my BRs: I'm going to miss you guys. We have survived hell together and we have done it while having fun. We are the Class of 2009 and wherever we go in life we will have that common bond. To my rats: All of you, Todd, Ryan, Will, Alex, Lee, and of course Jake, have done something great, but it is only the beginning. Your dykes are leaving; it is your turn to suffer through VMI as we have. It is a long journey; keep your chin up and help each other, you are co-dykes. To my little brother: I'm proud of you Jake, you haven't tainted the Tharp name at all. You have a different legacy than the rest and I know you'll do great. You've always been the smarter one, so keep it up; I know you'll excel here at VMI despite the unique challenges. To all my friends: I couldn't have done it without your support. You guys made this place bearable with the places to crash and the drinking partners on the weekends. If you need anything don't hesitate to call. Think where mars glory most begins and ends. And say my glory was I had such friends. - William Butler Yeats

Drew Thompson

Perry, Florida
Mechanical Engineering
Navy

Club Golf 1; Cadre 3,2,1.

As I reflect back at my time here at VMI, I know that it is only because of my friends, family and God that I have made it through. There were many times that I was very disappointed with what was happening at VMI. I know that I have talked to many other cadets who feel the same way, unfortunately as a cadet it is easy to get focused on the small things that make our life hard day to day and forget to step back and take a look at the school we have had the privilege to attend. I can say confidently that there is no other place that is like VMI. I am glad that I not only chose to come here but decided to stick it out through the tough times. I have made some friendships that hopefully will last forever and learned lesson that will serve me well as I enter the real world. My roommates deserve a special thanks, they put up with my complaining, weirdness and generally difficult personality. You guys are awesome; I am blessed to have lived with you. I would also like to thank all the various people that took me in over my cadetship, being far from home it was good to have a place that I could get away from VMI. Daren Timmons (Dr. T) deserves a special thanks, he took time out of his busy schedule to mentor me and push me to grow. I know that I often took his relationship for granted. Finally I would like to thank my dykes. @9 probably taught me everything I know, or at least everything I needed to survive at VMI. it has been a great four years, but I'm glad to be done.

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. James 1:2-4

DYKEs 2006: Marcus Barnes
RAT 2012: TJ Talley, Trae Watkins

DYKE 2006: Bradley Steidle
RAT 2012: Todd Sager

DYKE 2006: Dan Rogers
RAT 2012: Nathan Iseman

Joseph L. Thompson

Glasgow, Virginia
Economics
Marine Corps

Douglas C. Trask

"Dougie", "Dougie Fresh"

Glendora, California
Mechanical Engineering
Navy

Private - 4, 3, 2, 1; Academic Mentoring - 3, 2; SAME - 3, 2; Tau Beta Pi -- 2, 1; OGA Vice President- 1.

Growing up, I watched my two brothers successfully tackle VMI. I saw them change from two goofy high school kids to intelligent, resolute, and confident VMI men. Although I was determined to forge my own path and go to some other school, I could not help but be attracted to the place that changed them so much. Making the decision to go to VMI was one of the best decisions of my life. I could not have completed four years here without the help of mentors, friends, and family. Thank you to the ME and Honors faculty for always having open doors. One of my favorite parts of VMI was having professors who were so willing to give help outside of class and cared so much about their students. I could not have become an engineer without their thoughtfulness and patience. John Fox, thank you for setting me on the path of a good cadetship. You were the best example of a good cadet and an excellent dyke. Ian, Kip, Daniel, and Reza, thank you for being such good roommates and friends. I will always remember singing Kelly Clarkson during hell week, trips to Salerno, and joking around until it hurt too much to laugh anymore. To the MES, OGA, Navy mids, and "broskis", thank you being such loyal friends. You could make the most depressing VMI/Navy day a blast. You are all men and women of the finest character. I can only hope to have friends outside of VMI of the same caliber as you. Sam, Bruce, Kyle, and Ray Continue to take care of each other and appreciate your time at VMI. There will be ups and down but you will look back and value every minute. Lastly, I would like to thank my family. Carl and Scott, thank you for showing me the way and helping me through all four years. I could not have two better role models. I attribute much of my success at VMI and in NROTC to your guidance and support. I am so proud of both of you. I hope I have made you two proud of me. Mom and Dad, thank you for always supporting me.

Tyler W. Tucker

Burke, Virginia
History
Air Force

DYKE 2004: John Haywood
RAT 2012:

DYKE 2006: John T. Fox
RAT 2012: Samuel Ramirez

DYKE 2006: Jason T. Major
RAT 2012:

Ateala L. Tuff

"Tequila"
Newnan, Georgia
Psychology
Marine Corps

Swimming, Sports Trainer

I was a totally different person when I first came to VMI. I felt I could tackle this challenge on my own. I learned very quickly that it was impossible to go through this experience on your own. I never knew what it meant to have to rely on people and for people to rely on me. It was very humbling and something that I am grateful for everyday now. I look back and I appreciate all the lessons that this school has taught me. I feel that my dyke and I were paired for a reason because without her, I know I would have never made it through my first semester with the attitude that I had brought with me to VMI. She showed me the ropes and never gave up on me. My roommate, Roxanne Franck is also someone that I have to thank because without her, I would have never become a first classman. She was the one who was always there. We pushed each other which made us both better. We felt that as females at this school, we had to meet not just the standard put on us, but to try to surpass the standard that was put on our male counterparts to help earn their respect. My roommate Corie Parsons and I formed a special bond that I think neither one of us can explain. Between being Marine Options and Psychology majors, we pulled each other through with the countless sleepless nights and the many silly conversations. The love I have for these people is something I cannot put into words but is something I will carry with me for the rest of my life. The VMI way of life has been a struggle to say the least but has made a better person for it. There is not a doubt in my mind that my life would be very different if it was not for this school. For that, I will always be grateful. People come to this school with different backgrounds and stories. Some are rich, others are poor. Some have had a "Leave it to Beaver" lifestyle growing up, while others have come from broken homes. We all were put into tight quarters and forced to get along.

DYKE 2006: Heather Brown
RAT 2012: Kylie Turner

Mark A. Turner

Roanoke, Virginia
Chemistry, History
Marine Corps

DYKE 2006: Todd Wilson
RAT 2012: Grant Currell, Josh Theroux

Michael W. Vaughn, Jr.

"Spike", "Woody"
Columbia, Tennessee
Electrical & Computer Engineering
Navy

Trap and Skeet Team 1.

I would first like to start by thanking my parents and sister, without your prayers and support; it would have been much harder to make it through VMI. Your encouragement and support means more to me than you will ever know. You have helped me stay the course over the last four years and for that I am forever grateful. Looking back on my past four years at the Institute, I never thought it would come to an end. It's true what they say in describing time here. The days drag on but the weeks fly by. It seems now that the years have done the same as well. The memories and the friendships I have experienced here are something I will always cherish and take with me throughout life. The lessons here have also taught me much about life and have helped me become a better person and man. To my roommates- Justin, Danny, and Brian, thank you for all the support and memories we have acquired over the past four years. I couldn't have asked for better people to live with, you were truly a blessing. To all my close friends (you know who you are); I wouldn't have made it without you. I have made some amazing friends here that I wouldn't trade for anything. You are all such a big part of my life and mean the world to me. You were all there through the many ups and downs of this place, and I know the bond we share will last for many years to come. As we depart here and go our separate ways, I hope that we can all stay in touch. To Riley, Caleb, Barrett, Matt, and Dave, remember all the things we taught you and hold your dykes traditions and values dear. You're all we have left here so make us proud. In closing, remember the words of Jeremiah 29:11 which says, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

DYKE 2006: Sam Wallace
RAT 2012: Riley King

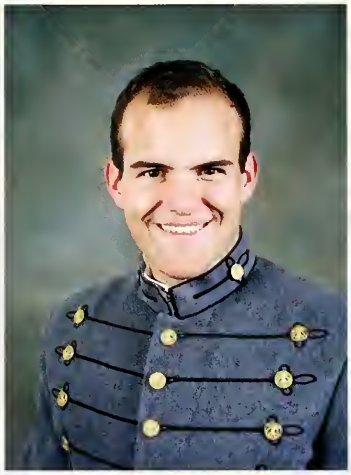
Bryceon P. Venteicher-Shulman

"V-Unit", "Brycenon"
Woodbridge, Virginia
History
Air Force

Club Lacrosse, English Society, History Honors Program

It is rumored Ulysses S. Grant once said, "The time I spent in Springfield drove me to drink." After four years at VMI, it is easy to appreciate these words. Of all the things I'll miss, it will be the time I spent with my roommates and close friends. The bonds we've formed are the closest anyone can, and I know we will remain friends for life. Looking back at my time at the Institute it's been tough and it has made me a harder worker. But it also has helped me appreciate the little things in life; and it will be hard not to be happy without a trumpet waking you up in the morning.

DYKE 2006: Darren Wellner
DYKE 2012: Ben Beamer, Andy Chung



Daniel Von Schuch

"Danny"
Chesterfield, Virginia
Psychology
Army

NCAA Football, Power lifting, Character Counts

First I would like to thank my mother, father and two brothers, without their love and prayers I would not have been able to make it through VMI. VMI has taught me a lot about friendship and bonds. I have created some of the strongest bonds that I will ever have, and they will last me a lifetime. Thanks to my close friends, you all have helped me through the good and bad times. Thanks to my roommates Justin, Brian, and Mike. I could not have imagined living with anyone else. To the best company on the hill, HOTEL Co. thanks for the good times we have all had during our time here at VMI. To my rats, Dave and Matt, I hope that I have taught you guys valuable lessons that will help you succeed here. Never forget where you came from. Keep up the hard work, I promise it will pay off in the end.

"We are all inventors, each sailing out on a voyage of discovery, guided each by a private chart, of which there is no duplicate. The world is all gates, all opportunities."
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

DYKE 2006: Jack Herzog
RAT 2012: Mathew Palmer

Nathaniel C. Warner

Norfolk, Virginia
Biology
Air Force

Honor Court, S2, NCAA XC and track, Triathlon club

Brothers, I had no idea the friendships that I would forge over these four years. Without all of you, this place would not be worth the struggle. Five hundred words will not even begin to scratch the surface of this experience. I will remember and miss all the good times I've shared with many great friends. Brian Steel, I am so glad we were put together as rat roommates. Without you, I don't know where id be now. I look forward to our continued friendship after graduation, especially when we're old and successful, remembering the good ole days over a cold beer. Andrew Rice What can I say? I can't wait till we're both back living in Virginia Beach together! Having cookouts and sippin' on some good stuff while our kids are playin in the yard. I'm glad you came to 298 when you did. I'll never be able to drink Yukon Jack again because of you. Andrew Aloisio. When we're both doctors, we're gonna ride our unicycles around and laugh about this place. Alex Snyder.Standing up in front of the corps with you almost makes formations worth it. I enjoy all our talks and am so glad you're in the 126 with us this year. Josh Kenny—I've spent many late nights philosophizing with you when we definitely should have been studying! No matter, great memories and still not so bad grades. Jared Klainbart—Congratulations on aviation! I feel only a little bit responsible for your branch! Haha. Just kidding. But for real, great times hating botany with you and great times studying late in B1 and B2 together! Love ya bro. Andy Zyra, Anytime you want to skip physics lab and go surfing, lemme know and we'll roll! To my rats: congratulations, you're a quarter done! Parents and family—Thank you for all your support and kindness over the years. Mom, your tailgates are out of this world! Dad, thanks for your quiet wisdom and Jeff, I love you bro! Ahma and Ahba, thanks for all your love and kindness!
Katie Snyder—I love you, you're my puzzle piece.

DYKE 2006: Chris Brandiff
RAT 2012: Stewart Wilkinson, Jon Ecklund

Andrew D. Washbish

"Bish"
Saline, Michigan
International Studies, Spanish
Army

Ranger Challenge, MMA and RDC

There is no advice I can give to anyone still at VMI or any words of wisdom for those of us leaving. Quotes of what VMI tries to make us and who we aspire to be can be found everywhere. "You may be whatever you resolve to be," "Never take counsel of your fears," Inscription on the Parapet, The Cadet Oath, VMI Mission and especially the shrieking howl at 3:33 a.m. of DEATH BEFORE DISHONOR. The success the system creates has been seen on the battlefield and in the boardroom. Men reaching the ranks of generals, CEOs or just being noble citizens. We chose to come to VMI knowing the struggles we would endure, but simultaneously with the hope of succeeding like the alumni before us. But perhaps the greatest benefit we will have received is this new brotherhood molded around the mutual suffering and respect. Despite how cheesy the 'Brother RAT Spirit' may have sounded or how we still joke about it, it most certainly does exist and it is the only reason some of us have made it. Without my BRs this place would have been truly treacherous. Instead we found humor in what should have been boring and painful times. The day we broke out and all cheered the old yell for '09 our first time, I truly believe everyone's heart was fully in it and we were unified forever as a class; happy to have chosen VMI as our college. Some have become disillusioned upon the way to graduation for any multitude of reasons. But when we throw our white gloves in the air we will be reminded of our unity that we shared around the sentinenal box, and who we are as brother rats will be forever sealed at that very moment. I would not have wanted to have attended VMI with any other group of Keydets. My Brother RAT are what have made this place worthwhile and the bond we share. Thank you roommates: Josh, Hosey, Ram-rod, and John Saun. Thanks co-dykes Karl and Sphar. Thank you to all my brother rats. Good luck to those still here.

DYKE 2006: Jared Sheets
RAT 2012: Michael Bowman

Myles F. Wasson

"Fletch", "Fleeha", "The Bear"
Newburyport, Massachusetts
International Studies
Marine Corps

Rugby, Charlie Company Cadre, NCMT Cadre, Lexington Fire Dept, Lexington Rescue Squad

Its been real, its been fun, but it ain't been real fun. I want to thank my family and friends for all their help getting me through VMI. Without your guidance and support I doubt I would have made it this far. To my teammates on the rugby team, we have had some great times and some hard times. I will never forget coach's speeches or the van trips all over the east coast, or San Diego. I will also never forget Todd Miller, CySgt. Mercardante or any of the others we have lost along the way. I want to thank my coaches and professors for all the wisdom they passed on to me. I also want to mention Col. Richardson and Bill the mailman – without attitudes like yours' VMI would be a lot worse. "Troyosaurus" and our rats, study hard and try to stay out of trouble and you will be good to go. Finally, roommates of the deuce, we have had some great times! Thanks so much for the fond memories and your help through the bad ones. Lastly, over the four years and countless laps of penalty tours, I developed a list of ten things that I learned here at VMI that will probably stay with me for life: 1 Leadership can't be taught in a classroom. Just do the opposite of what you see here, 2 Its O.K. to break rules, as long as you don't get caught, 3 VMI builds character…maybe: A sense of humor…definitely. 4 Country music – it isn't a genre, its religion, 5 If you have to ask whether or not you should do something…its probably a bad idea, 6 Integrity – although I really can't stand when SGM Neel critiques a rat's strain even though he never strained a day himself, he did give me one good piece of advice – "just do the right thing", 7 Most of us don't get out enough to understand complicated drinking games, but we will dominate keg stands and shot gunning, 8 Cadets are generally too lazy to read anything this far down a list, 9 DYKEs, boning, raping ducks…, 10 Civility.

DYKE 2006: Scott Donald
RAT 2012: Troy Warcewicz

Jasper W. Watkins

"J-Dubb"
Grayson, Georgia
English
Air Force

Bahhhhhummbuggg
I hate this place!

DYKE 2006:
RAT 2012:

Kang-Hung Wei

"Weisian"
Taipei, Taiwan
Computer Science, Mathematics
Army

Boxing, Ranger Challenge

Barrett C. White

"B", "Bert"
Springfield, Virginia
International Studies
Marine

Band Company RAT Challenge Corporal; RAT Challenge Rock Climbing 2.1(ACIC).

Charles L. Wickersham, Jr.

Cheasapeake, Virginia
Biology
Navy

To the green-eyed girl -
There's always some reason to feel not good enough. And it's hard at the end of the day. I'll sing it one last time for you. Then we really have to go. I thought it would be so simple, like a thousand times before. I'd take what I wanted and just walk away, but I never made it to the door. How many special people change? How many lives are living strange? Like anyone would be. I was flattered by your fascination with me. Forever with you. Forever in me. Ever the same. Funny when you stop and think. Time goes faster than you blink. I was a quick wet boy, diving too deep for coins. Wear a mask everyday. To hide the pain that I have inside. My home is far but the rest it lies so close. With my long lost love under the black rose. I pretend that I'm glad you went away. These four walls close in more every day. But if my silence made you leave. Then that would be my worst mistake. So I will share this room with you. And you can have this heart to break. And I don't want the world to see me. Cause I don't think they'd understand. When everythings made to be broken. I just want you to know who I am. Again. Slipping out to have a cigarette with someone else that had never met. Ask her if by the way, would she like to run away. And try to forget? Or just not to stay, to leave without saying why. To get up and go. To catch the last train. To get in some car. And drive out again.
To never come back this way...
And have to say...
Goodbye
...Here's a toast to all those who hear me all too well

It has been a long journey that has oddly been quicker than I could have ever imagined. I've been through a lot in my four years at VMI; gladly and surprisingly it only being four years. My first week at VMI I had heard that Katrina had hit my family down in New Orleans and with no phone or computer I had no way of knowing if any of them were alright. Luckily they were but within the first week here I realized that my life really was going to be different here and shut off from most of the outside world. Within my first month here I managed to almost get kicked out and I probably receive the quickest Number 1 in cadet history. After my little stunt of tackling the Duke Mascot at an away football game I tried to keep my head down and keep out of trouble, but the key word is tried. My next three years here were filled with many ups and downs; thankfully all those times were away from the watchful eye of the commandant's staff. Probably not the brightest person around but I always looked to have fun and did manage to have fun in my four years here. I've grown up since I first matriculated but I still feel like a kid, which will probably never change. My roommates are great guys that I'm proud to call my friends. They've always been there and have seen me through the worst of times here at VMI and the best. I'm pretty happy how my life turned out here and the friends I made I know will last for many years to come. The TCM will always be my home here at VMI. Thank you guys for being there for me all these years. In a weird way I'll miss this place, but I'm ready to get out.

DYKE 2006: Han-Lung Jin
RAT 2012: Joshua Chao, Chung-Yen Yang

DYKE 2006: Brian McGill
RAT 2012:Brian Pool, Jacob Znachko

DYKE 2006: Michael S. Child, Jr.
RAT 2012:

Justin A. Wiezorek

"Weezy"

Washington, Pennsylvania
International Studies
Navy

Council, Color Guard, VMI theater, SAD, S-7, bodybuilding

To my family: Thank you so very much for all your support for me the four years I've been here. They helped with everything from money problems to food packages. I have had a lot of fun all these parents' weekends when you have come down. These four years went fast didn't they? I'm almost ready to graduate, and it seems like yesterday that I made that first rat call home when I had lost my voice. I love all of you. BRs: You are what made it worth it to stay here four years. I have many fond memories to carry with me of all the fun and crazy things we have done together, especially the 'council,' lol. Those memories will continue to make me laugh when I think of them for years to come. I have had fun abroad on navy trips with JT and learned many key dance moves in clubs from Bahrain to Boston. Cortes and I combined our powers first class year to take full advantage of weekends. Tom, remember when we went biking during the summer in Lexington and you wore your special helmet and vest as well as our underfunded, incomplete movie starring Boone? And Dave, we will never forget that awesome summer at the house. Stu, thanks again for letting me come to your house to watch the Steelers win the Superbowl. Erik, I know we'll never forget that trip back to my house for Easter break third class year when our car rolled twice and we got out and wondered if anyone had gotten a picture. Nash, I anticipate a great trip to Pittsburgh before we leave this year. Glomb, you make a great OC in our guard pair. To my dyke: I also owe thanks to you for helping me through rat year and showing me the ropes. Kwon, you have done a great job this year. I am proud of you! I remember deciding that I wanted to have you as a rat when I met you at the Matriculation Fair, having a good feeling about you. Remember to keep your aim high but to not miss out on the fun things here. I am sure you will make the most out of your experience. Good Luck.

DYKE 2006: Frank Dolberry
RAT 2012: Taeseung Kwon

Ryan G. Willard

Leonardtown, Maryland
Mechanical Engineering
Navy

I wanted to attend the Naval Academy but going through high school in a very competitive area for Naval Academy applicants I realized that the odds weren't too good. So I began looking at other schools with NROTC units. I had wanted to be in the military my whole life so normal schools with NROTC units weren't as appealing to me as military schools. I wanted more of an academy-like experience where I could learn military discipline and when I found out about VMI, I was sold. I matriculated in the summer of 2005 and began my life's biggest transition. I had originally joined the VMI baseball team once I matriculated. However, despite my unwavering passion for the sport, I decided that baseball wasn't the priority. I wanted to focus on keeping my grades up so I could earn a contract with the Navy. By the second semester of my rat year I had earned a 3 Year NROTC scholarship. The military education is what I prize most out of VMI. I took tremendous pride in serving as Golf Company cadre for two and a half years and turning many young men and women into cadets as well as leading Golf Company to two Garnette Andrews victories. My first class year started out badly as I had many problems working against me which eventually led me to make some mistakes and get in trouble with the commandant. However, I owned up to my mistakes and served my penalty fully while I sought necessary counseling from the Cadet Counseling services as well as my good friends and got myself back on track. I finished my first class year having been selected as a student naval aviator and earned rank in Golf Company once again. I look forward to serving my nation and I will miss all my best friends here at the institute dearly.

DYKE 2006: Justin Guy
RAT 2012: Casey Riggs, Robert Rice

Ian M. Williams

"Guido", "E-Train", "Papa E"

Watertown, New York
Psychology
Air Force

NCAA Lacrosse 4,3,2; Bodybuilding Club 2; Character Counts 1; Big Brother/Big Sister 2, CEA Delta Rep 1; Delta 3rd Platoon SGT; Delta 2nd Platoon Lieutenant

When I think about the last four years, it truly has gone by fast. Everyone will tell you that this will go by in a blink of an eye, but you don't believe them. All of your days and weeks blend together to make one long day, but in the end the year seems a lot shorter than any day I've had. From your earliest days here you are told, "You can't do this place alone" and this holds more validity than anything else I have heard. Thank you to my family for always standing by me for all four years; they tell you this place gets easier with every stoop but I think its the opposite. Thank you to my roommates (Doug, Kip, Brewer, and Reza, this counts you too). We managed to not kill each other and you all have taught me something different. Thank you Coach Bartlett, rats are an impressionable animal and you definitely steered me in the right direction. Thank you Will, I would be long gone by now if it wasn't for you. You wouldn't give up on me even after I had completely given up on myself. Kyle, here is my advice for you. Keep your head up and just keep moving forward. This place can consume you if you let it, don't let it. Remember that you are a reflection of your dyke's class, do us proud. Always leave the room better than you found it. If you ever need anything come and get me.

DYKE 2006: Will Collier
RAT 2012: Kyle Hayes

Clayton B. Willig

"Clay Dawg"
Louisville, Kentucky
International Studies
Marine Corps

Cadet Waiter, Worm, Gim Company Commander

I have no idea how I discovered VMI. I have lived in Kentucky my whole life and never met a VMI alum nor had I heard anything abut the school until my senior year of high school. I was interested in the military and wanted to go to a military college. I think I did a Google search for military schools and I suppose VMI came up at the top of the list. While everyone complains about this school, I can honestly say that I have no complaints. Sure, I hate getting 5-15s because I forgot to sign out for optional BRC. But in the grand scheme of things I feel like I have been pretty fortunate. I have had great roommates all four years and a great group of friends to make fun of this place. It was nice for me to get away from home for four years and immerse myself in a completely different environment. The one thing that I will miss most about VMI is hanging out in the room with the roomies. Though I feel like a huge loser for writing that, some of my greatest VMI moments took place in the room. It has been a constant stream of laughs from RAT roomies Thomas Hayden and Andrew Rohrback and from third to first class year with BJ Bradshaw, Patrick McKinney and Andrew again. I also enjoyed my time spent working down in the Mess Hall. While it really wasn't fun cleaning up after people, I certainly had a lot of laughs down there as well. Of course I have to thank my family for all the support they have given me: never hesitating to make the six and a half hour drive from Kentucky to VMI to pick me up for furlough, my mother's daily letters when I was a RAT, and my brother offering to let me crash at his DC apartment any weekend I could escape VMI. I cannot wait to begin my life in the real word and be free for longer than my three month summer break. But I will miss all the ridiculous times spent with my friends at this ridiculous school. Pat, JB, Andrew and to the rest of the crew: it's been real.

Paul R. Wirth

Chesapeake, Virginia
Civil & Environmental Engineering
Air Force

VMIRFC, Concrete Canoe Team, Construction Office Intern

Over the past four years, the bad times have defiantly outnumbered the good, which defiantly made the good that much better. I would first like to thank my Dad for coming up for all the tailgating and to watch the rugby games and to my Mom for all the care packages throughout the years. Playing rugby was one few things I was able to look forward to. This would not have been possible without the players and coaches that made practices hard but fun. It was a work hard – play hard atmosphere, and no one showed this better than Coach, excuse me, Captain Howe. You did your best sir, to pass on your knowledge of not only women, but rugby as well. I would like to think that some of it got through. I would like to thank the team for a never dull moment and am not exactly sure how something went wrong on every trip. I have a lot of great memories with you all and I will always be a member of VMIRFC.

RAT, don't do anything stupid. We don't need any more of yall pulling a "Romm". You rats didn't do too badly of a job, minus the knocking things over in the morning. Good luck in your time here and make the most of it.

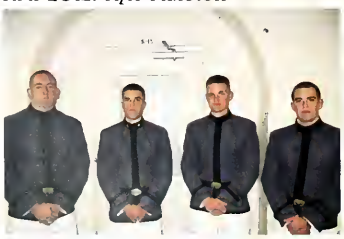
Gary W. Worley

"Worleybird", "Larry Sworley"
Suffolk, Virginia
Civil & Environmental Engineering
Army

Marathon Club, Timberframing

As the time comes to leave my second home, I think back to all the things I've experienced. From the longest and hardest days of my life to the most enjoyable, VMI has given extremes. Hopefully these extremes have conditioned each of us to react with ease to the circumstances which make men great. I'm thankful for every one of my brother rats and will always be there to help when a situation is too great to go alone. To my roommates and my rats; I love you guys and I'm sure with each of your strengths and focus you can achieve whatever it is you desire. Much of my strength I attribute to my parents for without their help I couldn't have made it this far.

DYKE 2006: Barry L. McCord
RAT 2012: Kyle Marston



DYKE 2006: Raymond M. Hill
RAT 2012: Alex Khandan-Barani

DYKE 2006: Joseph R. Tyler
RAT 2012: Cody Young

Aaron L. Yoder

Belleville, Pennsylvania
Psychology
Air Force

Albert C. Young, III

"Bert"
Falls Church, Virginia
Chemistry
Air Force

Zachary M. Youngsma

"Zach"
Caledonia, Michigan
International Studies
Army

RAT challenge 4,3,2 Boxing 4

If you tell the RDC VP that rules are like a "ham sandwich," how many push-ups do you do? How many PTs will your company march if you and two of your BRs pick the lock to the roof of barracks (using only hair pins you borrowed) and hang a banner right before BRC? How amazing is it to know that your company of BRs would rather march those PTs with you instead of turning you in ? How fast do you have to run to get from W&Is dorms to your room if taps is in four minutes? If you drive to Radford going a hundred miles an hour, how long does it take? If you shine a laser in a marines eye on the parade deck, how mad will he be? Can you talk your way out of a 10-630? Is living in the science-building greenhouse for the summer worth the experience? What about getting kicked out of the science-building by Post Police, only to move a few building down and sleep in the boxing room? How many stairs are between the football field and your room? Can you have a car on post for three of the 4 years you're here? Where are the best places to party in town? If you hold rank every year you can, does that make you a tool-bag? If you spend all three summers at VMI doing chemistry research, do your parents forget who you are? How many townies does it take to beat up 5 cadets? If you write your yearbook narrative and only mention the times you got drunk, drove fast, and broke the rules, will people remember you as a crappy cadet? I know the answers to all these questions except the last one. I hope that future generations of cadets find questions like these and discover their own answers. I'd like to say that I loved every minute of it, but who loves overcoat inspections? RAT. Both of you have what it takes. Don't mess up. To my Handler, Mims, Sculley, and Snuffin: I love you guys. I'm glad I had the opportunity to share my ride with you.

As the year closes all of us 1st classmen begin to think of our post graduation plans: be it jobs, more schooling, or the armed forces and we start to ask ourselves "was this place worth it?" Right now if there is one thing that made this place worth it, it has to be the people I've met and the friendships made. To my roommates: Mike, Fish, and Chase, you guys have become like brothers, you've all taught me a little bit about myself. It's been fun living with you guys, joking on each other in the room, writing papers at 3 in the morning, and tearing apart other colleges on the weekends. The memories (albeit some are a bit fuzzy) that we made both on post and off post will not soon be forgotten. I look forward to a few more good times after graduation. Fish, I couldn't ask for a better friend and I'm honored to be the best man in you and Ashley's wedding, best of wishes to you two. To my rats, Ryan aka "Ginger" and Cody aka "Capt. Mellon" you guys have been awesome. I've never regretted having you two as my rats and I couldn't have asked for anything more. It's been my privilege to watch you two grow exponentially in just this year and I wish you the best in the next three years. I leave you with a few pieces of advice: find a tight group of friends that support you and be yourself – you'll never go wrong. To Col Brodie, Col. Bush, SGM Neel, and LTC Levenson – you're mentorship has made a lasting impact on me and you have had a direct influence in my life and I thank you all for your guidance, understanding, and the personal interest you all take in cadet's lives. To the other members of the Corps that call me a friend, it's been real, and I've got some great memories that I'll always take with me. I wish you all the best in your various futures and look forward to seeing some of you army types in the future.

DYKE 2006: Kelly M. Sweppenhiser
RAT 2012:

DYKE 2006: Scott Bartholomew
RAT 2012: Arthur Harrington, Randy Baird

DYKE 2006: Thomas D. Wilson
RAT 2012: Ryan Schmidt, Cody Franklin

Celine M. Ziobro

"Z"

Henderson, Nevada
Civil Engineering
Air Force

NCAA Women's Soccer

Hey Yo!

It's been quite a journey. I just want to give a shout out to room 144, my home girls: Mego my Eggo, my partner in crime; Steph, the other pea in the pod; and Amanda, the bestest rat-tie I could hope for. There are no words fitting enough for you. Mom and Dad, for the love and support you have given and reminded me of throughout my cadetship. Volim te. Izdrzi duso moja.

Goodbye to:

No locks and windows in my door, radiator noises, the infamous Ninja Turtles, puddle jumping, late night dress up and dance parties, spirit drives and Thumper (RIP), sprinting back to barracks to make taps, BRC, SRC, HC check formations, PTs, confinement, living in a petri dish, having a curfew, after party sleepovers, the CPC, and knowing that someone else will be awake at 3AM to hang out with.

Late Lights: 3 demerits

Unauthorized haydown: 5 demerits

Sleeping through class: 5-15

Getting boned for desertion: 10-630

Learning to bend the rules without breaking them: PRICELESS

Andrew E. Zyra

"Zy Ty"

Chesapeake, Virginia
Biology
Army

RAT Challenge 3.2.1.

"The mind is its own place, and in itself / Can make a Heav'n of Hell, a Hell of Heav'n" –Satan from Milton's Paradise Lost. Your time at VMI is what you make of it.

Jillian C. "O'Hara" Weatherford

"Jill"

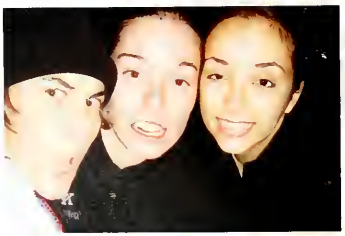
Baltimore, Maryland
Chemistry
Army

Rat Challenge (High Ropes), Women's Bible Study, College Republicans, EMT

I am so glad to be a part of the class of 2009. It has been my privilege to be your classmate, BR, Mama Rat, Ball Bustin' Bravo's Mom and friend to some of my favorite people. I thank anyone who supported me and welcomed me as their classmate. It is pretty amazing how quickly we will be able to remember the good times had at VMI over the bad. I pray we all meet again and again at reunions and in life. I hope and pray that as a class we will give the Institute a good name and proudly be a group willing to serve.

" The harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph"
- Thomas Paine

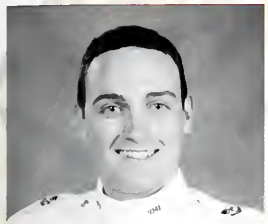
DYKE 2006: Jo Wall
RAT 2012: Amanda Berrios



DYKE 2006: Doug Ziegenfuss
RAT 2012: Matthew Ferguson

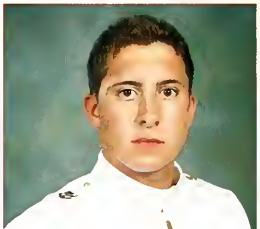
DYKE 2006: Colleen Logan
RAT 2012:

FIFTH YEAR CADETS



Brian A. Corley
Fairfax, Virginia
Electrical Engineering
Marine Corps

Donald R. Cowart
Rustburg, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Air Force



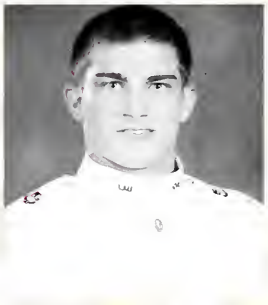
Adam F. Good
Broadway, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Army

Kevin W. Griffin
Smithfield, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Army

Andrew C. Haines
Melfa, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Navy

Bryce R. Lewis
Salem, Virginia
Physics
Marine Corps

Bryant J. Martin
Ferrum, Virginia
Civil Engineering
Army



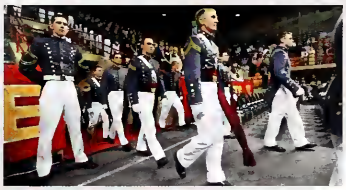
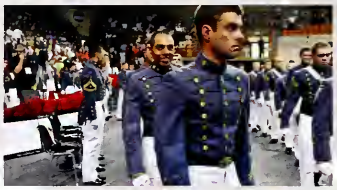
Brian A. Peeler
Springfield, Virginia
Economics
Army

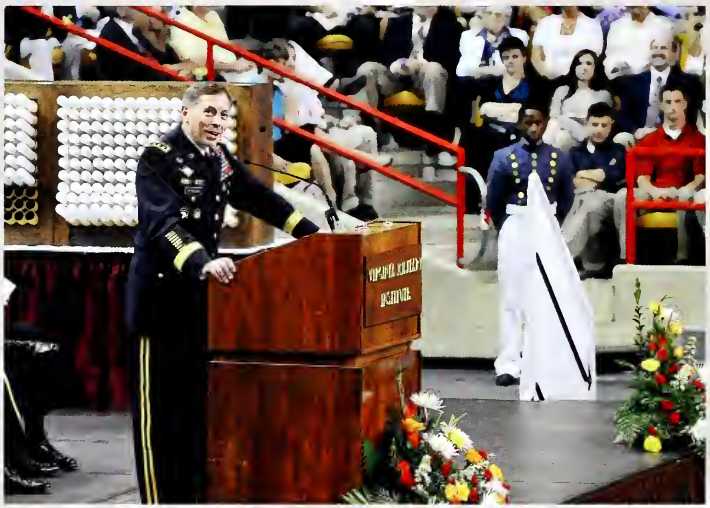
Sean A. Thompson
Waldorf, Maryland
Psychology
Air Force

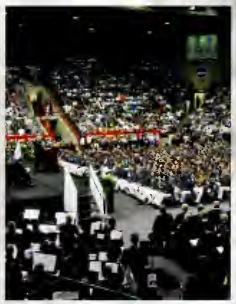
Disclaimer: Please note that all personal histories are a reflection of the individual student and not a representation of the Editor of the BOMB or Virginia Military Institute.

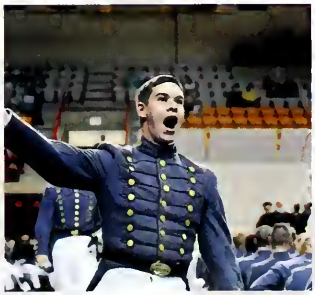
CLASS OF 2009 GRADUATION CEREMONY

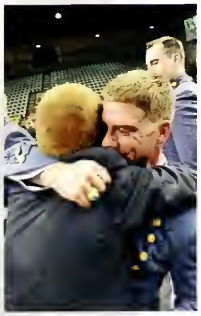
Valevictorian: Nick Campbell
Commencement Speaker: General Petraeus







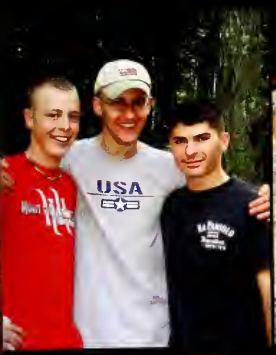


Graduation Week

Institute Awards

Graduation Parade

New Market Parade


USA

FANELLI
U.S. ARMY
LOCCEL
CHRISTONE
U.S.
VMI
BISMANN
U.S. ARMY

VICKERY

CLASS OF 2010

The Second Class General Committee

Charles L Cash
President

Bryant L. Youngblood
Vice President

Edward C. Desch
Historian

Karsten G. Bloomstrom
First Captain

Class of 2010,

Since the beginning of our class we have been defined by one unifying word; vision. We all had the privilege of matriculating as the rat mass of 07+3 under the leadership and mentoring of the great class of 2007. Our Dykes left us with a vision—which we have pursued with great effort—to leave VMI better than we found it, improving upon its solid foundation of Alumni, which have made our Institute famed. Since we left the shelter of our dyke's wings, our class has continued its journey of soaring to the top and leaving our mark on The Institute.

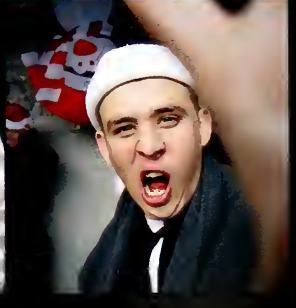
As we departed for our summer jobs, internships, and military training all our minds were on Ring Figure and our Second Class year. We came back no longer as "bulldogs" but as mentors being tasked with the continued development of the class 2011 and the training of the rat mass of 09+3. Our rings finally arrived, and we entered into the Brotherhood of the Ring in a world class fashion like no other class has done before. We watched and learned from the class of 2009 studying their every action, striving to emulate and improve upon their successes and shortcomings to further our goal of improvement. We have helped successfully raise up two classes in barracks and are now on the fringe of our final year at The Institute as First Classmen.

As we look ahead to being First Classmen, our class remains unified and our vision remains steadfast, to leave VMI better than when we found it. While we are excited to begin the next chapter of our cadetships, I challenge each and every one of you to take pride in what we have done, striving to push forward improving all the way to the finish line on May 16, 2010. We have so much to offer this Institute, and it has much to offer each of us if we embrace it. Take pride in our strict standards, honor code, and the fact that VMI Cadets are a cut above. Live up to and enforce those standards on OUR Corps, ensuring that the reputation and success of VMI continues.

I am honored and humbled to be leading The Corps with such a strong class behind me. I have great faith in what we can accomplish with our unified effort. Our success rests on the shoulders of each of us. Regardless of what you view as your role in The Corps, you are going to be First Classmen, the standard. Much will be expected of us, and I have no doubt our class will exceed these expectations. Pass on the legacy of improvement to our Rats, and never allow yourself or our legacy to be clouded by frustration and cynicism.

Class of 2010

"You may be whatever you ...



resolve to be." Stonewall Jackson

Unauthorized Vehicles..."It's a First Sergeant Thing"

four of these first sergeants were ght with a vehicle in the city of Lex-ton. As a second classman, you are allowed to have a car on post or in county of Rockbridge since it is a t class priviledge. Each of these dets lost their rank... for a car. Some cadets should be allowed to have a hicle in Lexington as a second class-n. Others say if home is far away, u should be able to keep your car mewhere off post so you can go home ring furloughs. Even some first class-n have even received parking tickets hey didn't abide by the $65 fee for rking their car in an unauthorized ation. Time for a rule to be changed? erhaps

Howard Abegesa
Andrew Adams
Evan Aguirre
Ahad Ahmed
Adam Aikens
Damiso Alexander

Rory Alfree
Matthew Allen
Robert Allen III
Ottie Allgood
Earl Aya-ay
Matthew Babcock

Paul Bailey Jr
Andrew Baity
Chad Baker
Robert Baker
Jordan Ballard
Jason Barnes

Charles Barnett
Logan Barnhill
Christine Beach
Alex Beckstrand
Silas Belt II
Tanner Biagini

David Bice Jr
Jonathan Bisulca
Ian Black
Karsten Bloomstrom
Erik Blum
Thomas Bond

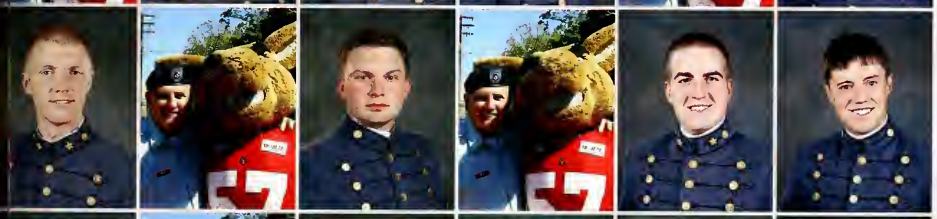
Brian Bopp
Jason Bowman
John Bowman
Benjamin Brandt
Eric Brigham
Justin Brinkman

Carter Brown
Donte Brown
Anson Bryant
Jonathan Buckland
James Burleson
Sloan Burns

Edward Burton III
Hugo Bustamante
Hunter Cantrell
Michael Caporiccio
James Carideo
Jarrod Cartwright

Stephen Cary
Dylan Cate
Stephen Cauley
Yu Chang
Thomas Chapman
Luke Clementson

Zachary Collins
Andrew Compton
Brian Connolly
Jennifer Cook
Jeffrey Cooper
William Correll



Jacob Cox
Jonathan Cox
Kevin Cox
Jarrett Craddock
Ryan Crean
Charles Crowder II

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Clinton Custer
Bryan Cvengros
Christopher Czupryna
Jessica Daniel
Ericsson Davis

Robert Davis III
George DeGennaro
Scott Delo
Edward Desch II
Paul DeValk
Kyle DeVerna

Caleb Dixon
Joshua Dixon
Elizabeth Dobbins
Samuel Dobbins
Christian Dolbey
Christopher Dommert

John Duffy
Christopher Duty
Tristan Euritt
Audrey Falconi
Jonathan Fanelli
Evan Farley

Andrew Faulconer
Joshua Favaro
William Feldmann
Robert Fendley
Michelle Feole
Justin Ferrell

Jonathan Ferro
Greg Fiasconaro
Jeremiah Fitzgerald
Andrew Fleenor
Shawn Fox
Maria Franchella

Daniel Frederick
Mitchell Gardner
Davis Garrett
Angie Gomez
Matthew Graham
Garland Gray III

Kenneth Green
James Griffith
Abram Gross
Troy Guthrie
Jeffrey Hafkemeyer
Rachel Halnon

Sarah Halnon
Arturo Harvey
Jared Hendee
Cody Hennelly
Joshua Hill
Robert Hindle Jr

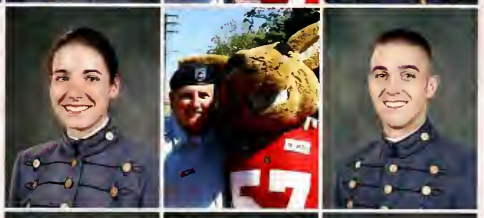
Andrew Horgan
Johnathan Horne
Alexander Houser
Timothy Howard
Richard Hozik
Joshua Hughes

Kyle Hughes
James Hummer III
Austin Hunt
Charles Hunter V
Ross Hussmann
Michael Hutchings

Jarrod Imatani
Michael Johnson
Alan Johnstone II
Carl Josey
Peter Karonis IV
John Keilty III

Sean Kennedy
James Kerr
Steven Kerr
Raymond Kirchner
Edgar Knapp IV
Conard Knight

Anthony Korbely IV
John Krahling
Scott Krieger
Michael Kromm
Jeffrey Kulat
Carter Kunz



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Preston Landt

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Christopher Leach
Brett Leonard

Chien Lin
Stephen Lindley
Nicholas Lizotte

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Lance Long II
Michael Long

Adam Lonon
David Lottman
Michael Louthan

Michael Lund
Scott MacDonald
Jake Maier
Julie Markow
Christopher Martin
John Maurice

Matthew Mawyer
Timothy Maypray
Dogucan Mazicioglu
Sean McCoy
Aaron McKeen
Robert McMullen

Joshua McPherson
Clayton Melton
Christopher Mendillo
Gilbert Mercedes
Mitchell Messick
David Messina Jr

David Miles
Andrew Miller
David Milligram
Justin Minter
Brian Molina
Jacob Moore

Timothy Moran
Jason Morgan
Daniel Morley
Robert Morris
Matthew Musick
Hunter Naff

Jonathan Nelson
Emily Neumann
Jesse Newman
Danh Nguyen
Charles Nicotera
Mikyle Nikmard

Douglas Nowak
Kyle Nweeia
Anthony Nweke
Brock Olson
Justin Ong
William Orndorff III

Scott Owen
David Padgett
Brandon Page
Thomas Page
Daniel Parker
Asia Pastor

Lowell Patterson
Daniel Perestock
David Phillips
Randy Phillips
John Piribek
Johnathan Pope

Gerald Popko
Edmund Preisser
Jonathan Price Jr
Anthony Prioletti
Michael Purpura
William Quarles

Randolph Raine Jr
Charles Range
James Ray
Berley Rister III
Benjamin Robertson
Jacob Robertson

Matthew Rodriguez
Even Rogers
William Romaine
Connor Ross
William Rowcliffe
Jonathan Safrit

Matthew Sagar
Reid Sartori
Matthew Satterwhite

Matthew Sculley
Tanner Sewell
William Shannon

John Sheehan
Johnathan Shirkey
Joseph Simmers
Patrick Simpson
Matthew Sinkez
Lincoln Splettstoesser

Bingley Squire
Jared Starin
Stefan Stark
Raymond Starsman
Alexi Staton
Robert Stockman III

Brandon Stratz
Daniel Strausbaugh
Ryan Stull
Michael Sundbeck
Emerson Suttenfield
Logan Swanson

Levi Swindell Jr
Alexander Taylor
Virginia Taylor
Jorge Tellez
Justin Tench
Fletcher Thompson

Owen Thulin
Racheal Toman
Joshua Toomey
Travis Travis
Miles Treacy
Owen Trotman

Kathleen Underwood
Saif Vazquez
Kelly Vickery
Alexander Wade
Neil Walker
Kuan Wang

Kristopher Ware
Jacob Weimer
Nicholas Weishaar
Daniel Welsh
Patrick Wentzel
Dominik Wermus

Leonard Weschler
Weston Whitcomb
Sarah Whitten
Chandale Williams
James Williams
Matthew Winks

Jonathan Winoker
John Witcher
Paul Wojtas
Shawn Wongkachonkitti
Paul Woo
Jonathan Wright

Mathew Wright
Lieh Wu
Nicholas Young
Bryant Youngblood
Christopher Zarycki
Michael Zelna

20 10

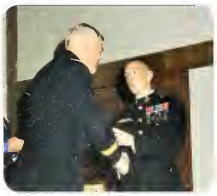
Honorary Brother Rats

Major Frank Diorio

Major Frank Diorio was born in Denville, NJ in 1973. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame and his Master of Arts in Diplomacy from Norwich University. Diorio was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps in 1996. He has served in Operation Desert Fox, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Presently stationed at Virginia Military Institute Major Diorio has influenced the members of the Class of 2010 both as the Senior Marine Instructor and as a TAC seen throughout barracks. We welcome him into our ranks as a member of the Class of 2010 and wish him luck as he attends the Marine Corps Command and Staff College in the fall of 2009. Congratulations Brother Rat!

Colonel L. E. Hurlbut

Colonel L. E. Hurlbut was commissioned as a secor lieutenant in the United States Air Force in August 1975 through the AFROTC program at Arizona Sta University. Colonel Hurlbut completed 26 years of acti duty and retired as a Colonel in November 2001. She h had an indelible impact on the lives of the Class of 2010 many ways. At VMI, COL Hurlbut is the advisor to the S (Academics) and the S5 (Public Relations) regimental stat Her role in the planning of Ring Figure w imperative to its success. She served as the ad sor to the Third Class Finance Committee and the Ri Figure Committee, working closely with the Class 2010 to create a unique and unforgettable expe ence. We welcome her into our ranks as a memb of the Class of 2010. Congratulations Brother R



Second Class Year

Class of 2010 Ring Figure!

2010,

Ring Figure was one of those rare and unforgettable occasions in a cadetship when your focus is entirely on celebration with your Brother Rats. Typically the impact others make on our lives is seen in hindsight, but Ring Figure weekend was alive with the spirit of brotherhood. From the ring tap ceremony to the forming of the figure, we set a precedent for every class to come. The Russian writer Anton Chekhov once said that "man is made better when you show him what he is like." VMI has the ability to show you who you are and what you are like but you won't find that reflection in the walls of barracks or on the stoops; you will find it only in the men and women who walk with you: your classmates, your Brother Rats.

Of the many memories we took from Ring Figure Weekend—other than Christmas coming early on the 5th floor of the HoJo—I hope that when we do look down at our rings, when we run our fingers over the word Mizpah, etched in gold, we remember the closest of our Brotherhood. In our long lives ahead, I hope we maintain the memory of what it took to finally enter the Brotherhood and let the thought of those days remind us to continue to celebrate past successes and always maintain optimism for the future.

Even Rogers,
2010 Ring Figure Chairman

2010,

Congratulations on entering the brotherhood of the ring! On your finger you wear an immortal bond with the Class of 2010. Never forget that you are a permanent representative of our class. This ring has made you an irreplaceable brick in the true foundation of VMI. At the class dinner, I said that the spirit of VMI is the spirit of every man or woman who has worn the ring. Never forget that every one of you portrays the spirit of VMI as it will be seen in the future. Ring Figure put our class to the test and we passed with flying colors. It could not have happened without the hard work, dedication, and fortitude of every one of you. At the beginning of the year, we set goals to make Ring Figure a unifying experience unlike any class before us. Looking back, we could not have satisfied those goals any better. As Ring Figure grew closer, our class quickly came together and everyone put in the work necessary to put on such an event. I feel so fortunate to have witnessed such immense growth as a class and as individuals. As said at the Class Dinner, each day that I wake up, my pride for this class grows. There is no doubt, in my mind, that we are the best class in barracks and next year we will prove it. Our class dinner has become the most incredible and sentimental event in my cadetship. The image of every one of your smiling faces at the ring presentation ceremony is permanently ingrained in my memory. Cocke Hall was incredibly transformed to provide us with a wonderful evening with both family and dates, and the Tent Party was the best party that any of us had ever attended. Looking toward the future, Ring Figure has set the standard for our class. Next year will require an equal amount of dedication and effort from the class in order to achieve the same quality in our product. Next year our product will be the Class of 2013, our Rats, and our everlasting legacy. It is our job to provide them with the education and experiences necessary to follow in our footsteps and be the best class in barracks. I will leave you with the quote that means the most to me and hopefully means a great deal to you: "In the name of the best within you, do not sacrifice this world to those who are at its worst. In the name of the values that keep you alive, do not let your vision of man be distorted by the ugly, the cowardly, the mindless in those who have never achieved his title. Do not lose your knowledge that man's proper estate is an upright posture, an intransigent mind and a step that travels unlimited roads. Do not let your fire go out, spark my irreplaceable spark, in the hopeless swamps of the approximate, the not-quite, the not-yet, the not-at-all. Do not let the hero in your soul perish, in lonely frustration for the life you deserved, but have never been able to reach. Check your road and the nature of your battle. The world you desired can be won, it exists, it is real, it is possible, it's yours."

Sloan Burns
2010 GC President

Howard Abegesah
Christie Abegesah

Andrew Adams
Rebecca Lee

Andy Adldoost
Amy Neas

Evan Aguirre
Catherine Nguyen

Ahad Ahmed
Breanne Manning

Adam Aikens
Laura Adams

Damiso Alexander
Katie Kim

Rory Alfree
Elizabeth Alfree

Matt Allen
Jamir Mangum

Rob Allen
Katie Allmong

Ottie Allgood
Mary Cates

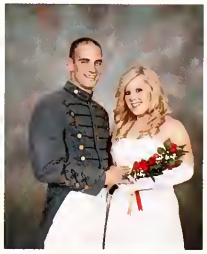
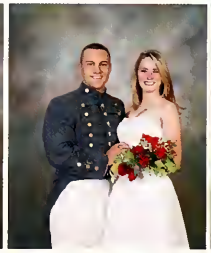
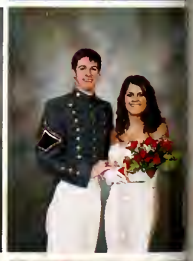
Neal Anderson

Earl Aya-ay
Yuminda Aya-ay

Matthew Babcock
Shannon Hill

Paul Bailey
Helen Cunningham

Andrew Baity
Salina Khanna

Chad Baker
Kelly Messina

Robert Baker

Jordan Ballard
Erica Shepard

Jason Barnes
Sarah Pigford

Class of 2010,

Ring Figure was a once in a lifetime chance to enjoy what VMI really means to our class. As a class we have accomplished many things such as a unified march to Jacksons Grave, our infamous "lock-in" before a sweat party, and most importantly breakout, but we now have a new milestone to add, entering the Brotherhood of the Ring. With this new accomplisment we have now joined those who have passed through the ring before us, and can now truly call ourselves VMI cadets.

That weekend in November will always be remembered as the weekend that we spent with our Brother Rats celebrating ourselves as a class. Good Luck with the next year which will lead us to our graduation.

- Racheal Toman
Ring Figure Editor 08-09

Charlie Barnett
Jamie Sorrels

Logan Barnhill
Melissa Case

Christine Beach
Zach Lungu

Alex Beckstrand
Brianna Kinney

Silas Belt
Megan Burge

Tanner Biagini
Madeleine Bade

David Bice
Lara Surface

Jonathan Bisulca
Stephanie Scott

Ian Black
Jessica Whiteman

Karston Bloomstrom
Taylor Landies

Erik Blum
Taylor Barela

TJ Bond
Sasha Simmons

Brian Bopp
Jamie Barrow

Albert Bowker
Chang Lin

Paul Bowman
Brittany Ledbetter

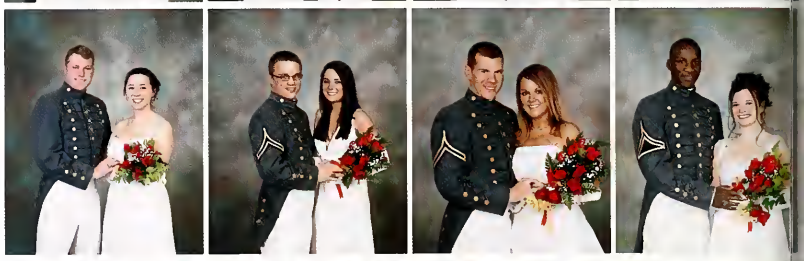
Ben Brandt
Sara Cristy

Eric Brigham
Meredith Young

Justin Brinkman
Rachel Cohen

Carter Brown
Lauren Burnett

Donte Brown
Lauren Gronche



Anson Laird Bryant
Ginger Wells

Jonathan Buckland
Kathryn Stephens

James Burleson
Katie Price

Sloan Burns
Rebecca DeTeresa

Edward Burton
Jessica Coocke

Huga Bustamante
Carolina Jaamillo

Hunter Cantrell
Jess Lancaster

Michael Caporcicio
Lexi Bingnear

James Carideo
Cat Osborne

Jarrod Cartwright
Carla Gutti

Stephen Cary

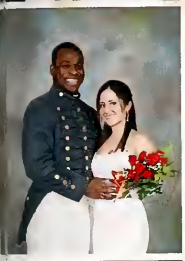
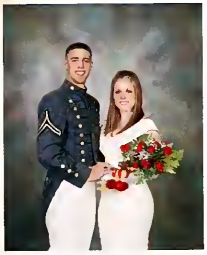
Dylan Cate
Natalie Stone

Stephen Cauley
Danielle Jagoda

Yu-Wei Chang
I-fan Ho

Thomas Chapman
Lydia Davidoski

Luke Clementson
Sarah Clementson

Zachary Collins
Gabriela Gonzalez

Andrew Compton
Caitlin Asip

Brian Connolly
Nicole Priddy

Jen Cook
Vin Lu

Jeff Cooper
Adella Robinson

Will Correll
Katie Oler

Jacob Cox
Ashley Lawson

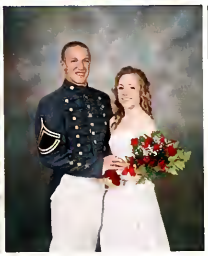
Jonathan Cox
Tracee Davis

Marshall Cox
Taryn Morris

Jarrett Craddock
Anna Michlle Walters

Ryan Crean
Jacqueline Goode

Charles Crowder
Lindsey Nevers



John Curtis
Sara Hatchell

Bryan Cvengros
Cam Baker

Chris Czupryna
Lia Fiasconaro

Jessica Daniel
Tim Daniel

Ericsson Davis
Alyssa White

George DeGennaro
Kathleen Kaath

Scott Delo
Elsye Coletta

Eddie Desch
Claire Cantrell

Paul DeValk
Nicole Morris

Kyle DeVerna
Elizabeth Adams

Major Diorio
Charlotte Diorio

Caleb Dixon
Kelly Teter

Joshua Dixon
Amanda Teter

Elizabeth Dobbins
Ried Stelly

Samuel Dobbins
Rachel Preston

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Rachael Bryd

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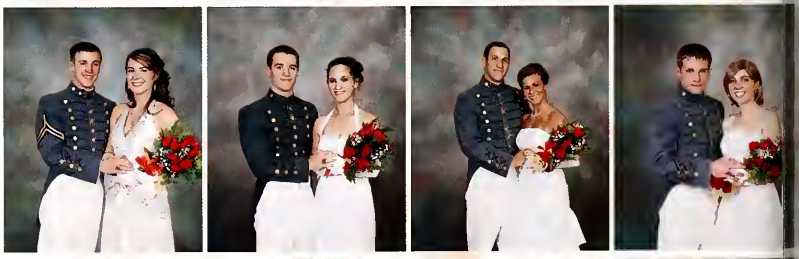
Amanda Allen

Chris Duty
Brianna Bertovich

Travis Edwards
Jael Cooper



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Christian Dolbey

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Summer Smith

Bill Feldmann
Sabrina Yapo

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Mary Swaffar

Michlle Feole
Marc Feole

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Meredith Mcdonnell

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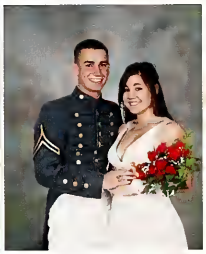
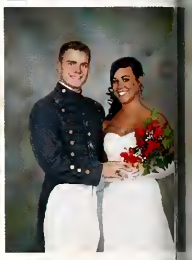

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Lance Hindle
Randi Dillard

Drew Horgan
Lorrie Shepley

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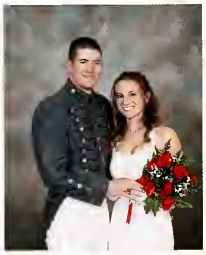
Chandale Williams



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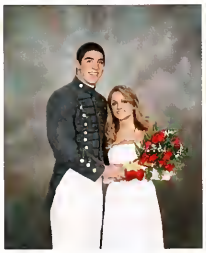
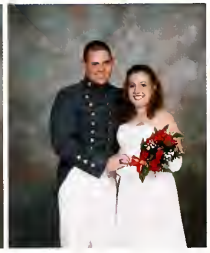

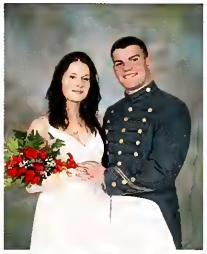

Colonel Hurlbut
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Tanya Elliot

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Jana Balognova

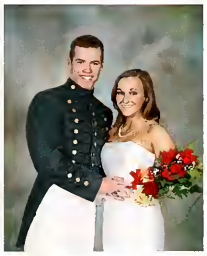
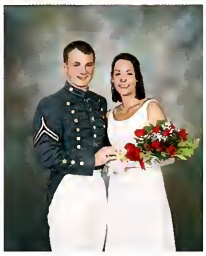
Jarrod Imatani
Megan Cougill

Jake Jackson
Chelsea Capizzi-Walsh

Mike Johnsons
Megan Bannon

McCrary Johnstone
Cathi Ecklund

Carl Josey
Jaclyn Stockwell

Peter Karonis
Megan Karonis

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Kathren Keilty

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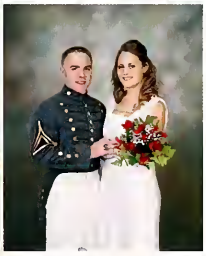
Kelley Kolar

James Kerr
Lauren Martara



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CJ Knight
Elise Stone

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Jennifer Hibar

John Krahling
Kill Yocum

Scott Krieger
Jessica Nutter

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Matie Warriner

Carter Kunz
Michelle Anderson

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FC Lamneck

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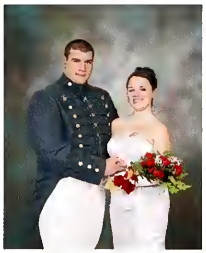
Lauren McKinnley



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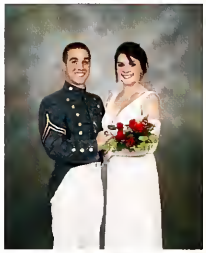
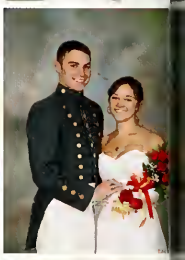
Catherine Gubisch



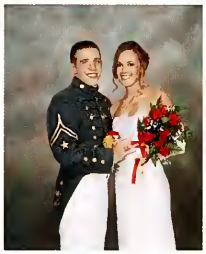


Chien-Chun Lin

Stephen Lindley
MIchelle Kint

Nick Lizotte
Ashley Clark

David Lochart
Gina Gatto



Lance Long
Alexi Staton

Mike Long
Katie Bott

Adam Lonon

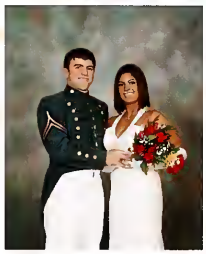
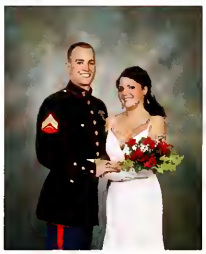
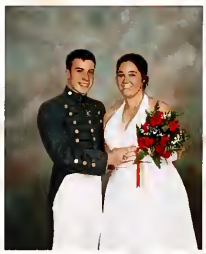
David Lottman
Jessica Robbins

Michael Louthan
Kelsey Thomas

Michael Lund
Alexis Catola

Scott McDonald
Maddie Marion

Jake Maier
Jill Schlabach

Julie Markow
James Einbund

Christopher Martin
Blair Barr

John Maurice
Chelsea Seidenberg

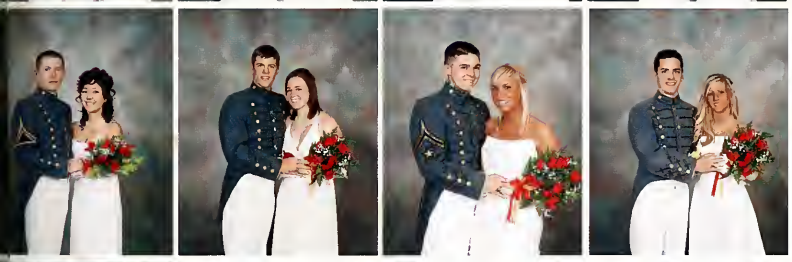
Matthew Mawyer
Erin Lamneck

Tim Maypray
Alyssa Hardy

Dogucan Mazicioglu
Virginia Newton

Sean McCoy
Alex Welsh

Aaron McKeen
Kim Evans



Robert McMullen
Eri Kamura

Joshua McPherson
Alison Jones

Clayton Melton
Morgan Green

Chris Mendillo
Kim Walker

Gilbert Mercedes
Rebecca Medina

Mitch Messick
Allie Johnston

David Messina
Sarah Massie

Marlon Miles
Courtney Winters

Andrew Miller
Samantha Copping

David Milligram
Catrina Bentan

Justin Minter
Julia Hogan

Brian Molina
Sarad Domnarski

Jacob Moore
Tori Hodges

Timothy Moran
Brianne Fitzpatrick

Corey Morgan
Damary Rapetti

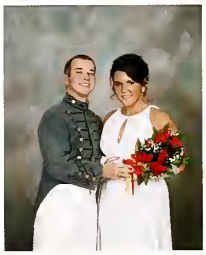
Jason Morgan
Olivia Johnson

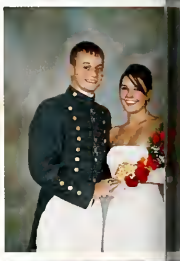
Daniel Morely
Jesse Wang

Bobby Morris
Kara Lush

Matt Musick
Jess Martin

Hunter Naff
Kettie Holland





Jonathan Nelson
Claire Stratton

Emily Neumann
Ian Ratliff

Jesse Newman
Mary Fleming

Dan Nguyen
Amy Tran

Charles Nicotera
Kimberly Van Renan

Kyle Nikmard
Taylor Cloyes

Kyle Nweeia
Elizabeth Potz

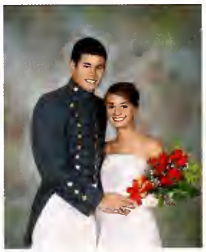
Anthony Nweke
Emily Kittleson

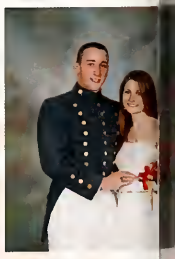
Brock Olson
Kerstin Lanberson

Justin Ong
Kristen Green

William Orndorff
Elizabeth Nicely

David Padgett
Mary Howell





Brandon Page
Nikki Guthrie

Nelson Page
Aubrey Wise

Daniel Parker
Colleen Hoffman

Asia Pastor
Arnold Pastor

Lowell Patterson
Sarah Steinberg

Daniel Perestock
Amanda Kitchen

David Phillips
Alice Bergen

Randy Philips
Lisa Ston

John Piribek
Laura Resetar

Jon Pope
Andrea Woodley

Gerald Popko
Maria Judith Soria Diaz

Edmund Preisser
Shannon Sullivan

Jonathan Price
Theresa Davis

TJ Prioletti
Yana Ossenova

Michael Purpura
Kritine Untalan

William Quarles
Heather Brown

Clint Raine
Erike Lambert

Charles Range
Laura Campbell

James Ray
Emily Deul

Berley Rister
Carry Ann Adams

Ben Robertson
Chelsea Moore

Jacob Robertson
Erica Skinner

Matthew Rodriguez
Tonette Robinson

Evan Rogers
Jennifer Gilmour

William Romain
Alyssa Brady

Connor Ross
Meg Momont

Will Rowcliffe
Linda Womck

Jon Safrit
Ashley Stoneham

Matthew Sagar
Grace Dawson

Reid Sartori
Becca Cranwell

Matthew Satterwhite
Brodie Lower

Benjamin Scudder
Allie Romaine

Matthew Sculley
Mary Davis-Lockart

Tanner Sewell
Amy Overman

Will Shannon
Jessica Rankin

John Sheehan
Natasha Jackson

Jonathan Shirkey
Caitlin Wood

Joseph Simmers
Adyna Galli

Patrick Simpson
Mellisa Case

Matt Sinkez
Kelsey Andrew

Lincoln Splettstoesser
Jenna Wickstead

Barker Squire
Murphy Horne

Jared Starin
Gabrielle Fairbaugh

Stefan Stark
Brandi Fitzferald

Ray Starsman
Katrina O'Hara

Alexi Staton
Lance Long

Robert Stockman
Emily Hussey

Brandon Stratz
Wendy Bennett

Dan Strausbaugh
Amanda Thompson

Ryan Stull
Brittany Booterbaugh

Mike Sundbeck
Brittany Edwards

Tyler Suttenfield
Katie Vickers

Logan Swanson
Brooke Williamson

Levi Swindell
Sharvonne Nelson

Alex Taylor
Ashley Crockett

Virginia Taylor
Brendan Taylor

Jorge Tellez
Natalia Kossobokova

Justin Tench
Katelyn Wrinkle

Fletcher Thompson
Cori Byrd

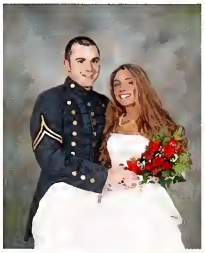
Owen Thulin
Drew Carter

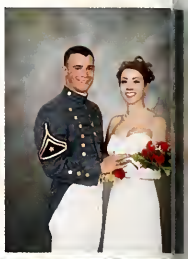
Racheal Toman
Roy D. Toman III

Kaine Toomey
Sarah Beall

Miles Treacy
Caitlin McCarty

Owen Trotman
Margret White



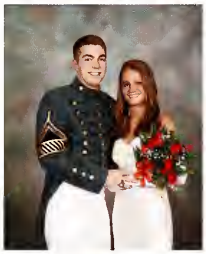


Jeff Turner
Haley Barry

Kathleen Underwood
Zach Bolen

Saif Vazquez
Emily Bates

Kelly Vickery
Aubrey Vickery

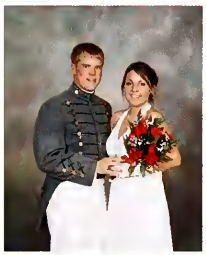
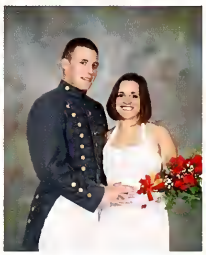


Alex Wade
Kim Donovan

Neil Walker
Kendall O'Malley

Kuan-Chih Wang
Hsin-Wen Yang

Christopher Ware
Maria King

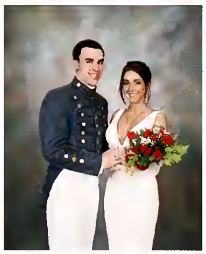
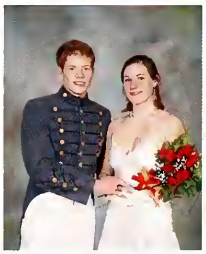



Jacob Weimer
Nanamari D'Occhio

Nick Weishaar
Elizabeth Wise

Daniel Welsh
Kara Hartman

Patrick Wentzel
Jordan Nendza

Dominik Wermus
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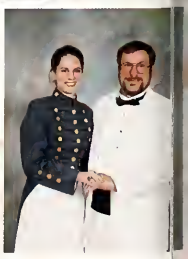
Leonard Weschler
Whitney Malone

Weston Whitcomb
Kim Whitcomb

Sarah Whitten
Jonathan Gunter



Chandale Williams
Jonathan Horne

James Williams
Lou Seipel

Matthew Winks
Leah Thomas

Jonathan Winoker
Channing Brauer

John Witcher
Elizabeth Saunders

Paul Wojtas
Kae Smith

Shawn Wongkachunkitti
Stephanie Villegas-Hoang

Paul Woo
Francesca Minale

Jack Wright
Megan Hopkins

Matthew Wright
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Lieh-Hao Wu

Bryant Youngblood
Ashlie Vickers

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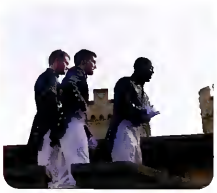
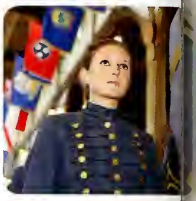
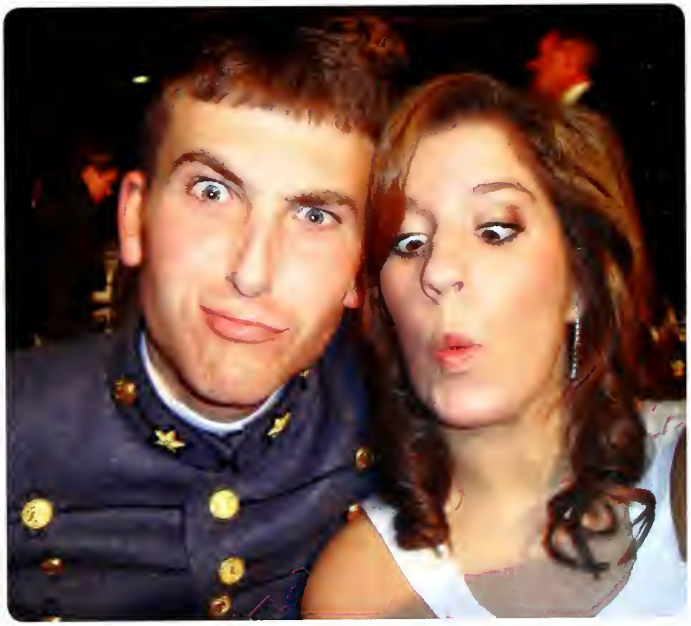
Emily Ann Brocha





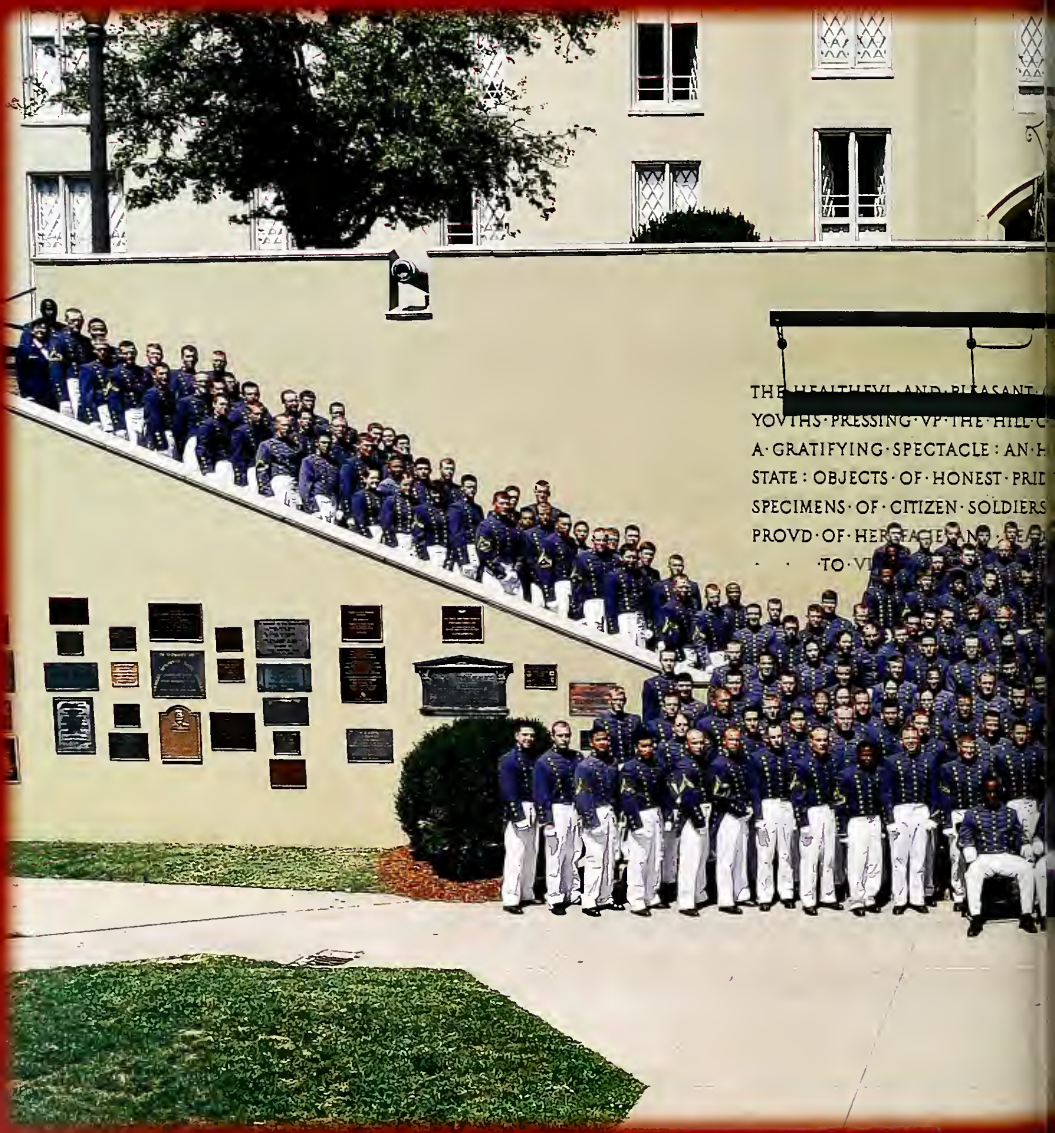
Ring Figure Ball

Mizpah

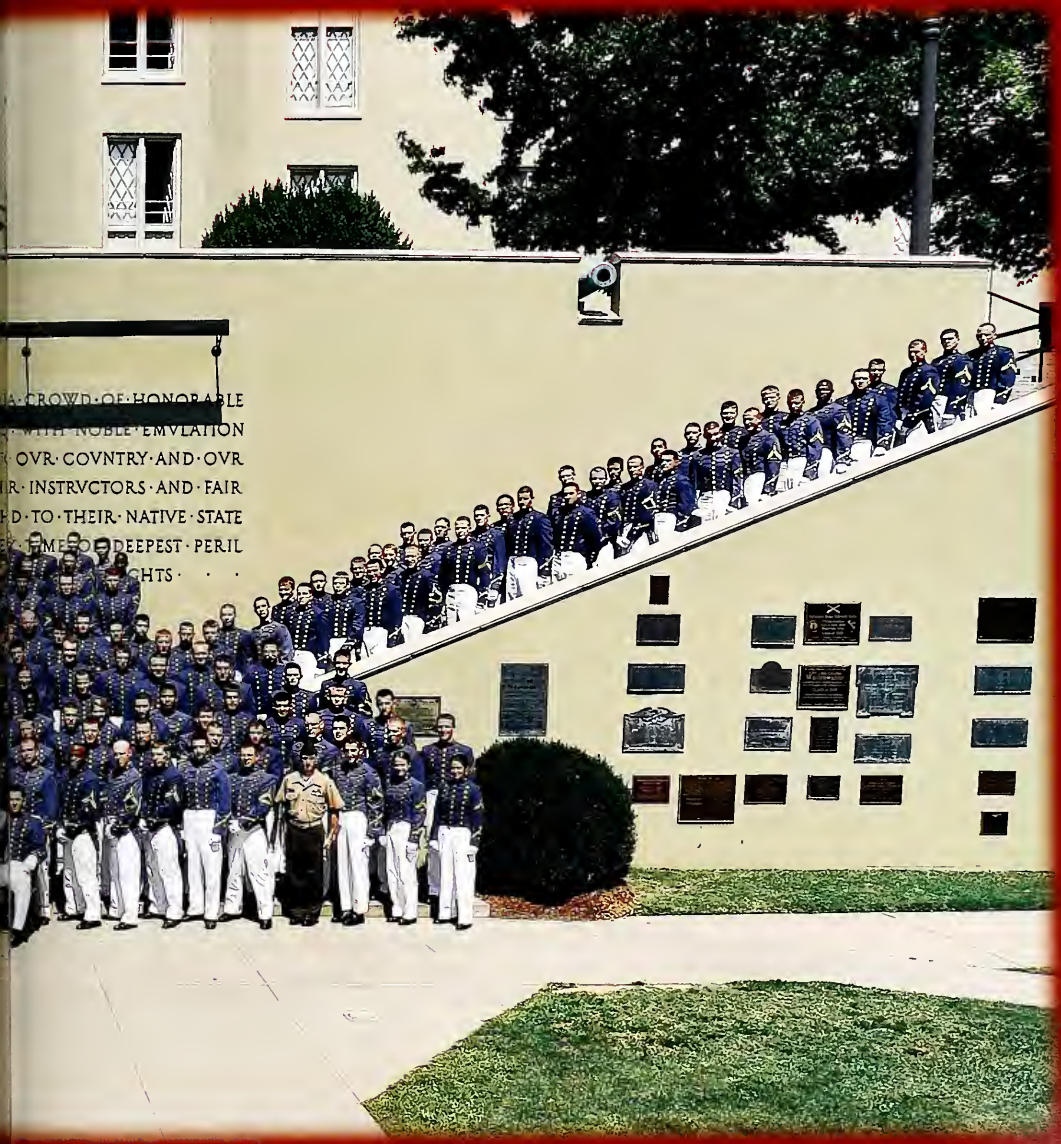


2010 Ring Figure

Class of 2010



Ring Figure

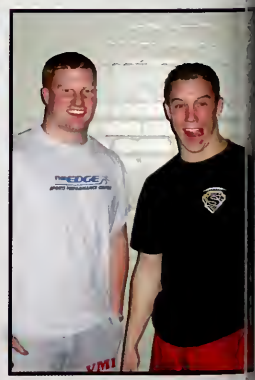

A·CROWD·OF·HONORABLE
WITH·NOBLE·EMVLATION
OVR·COVNTRY·AND·OVR
R·INSTRVCTORS·AND·FAIR
D·TO·THEIR·NATIVE·STATE
HTS

VMI
ATHLETICS

VMI

VMI

VMI
VMI


VMI

CLASS OF 2011

Third Class General Committee Officers

Jonathan E. Twigg
Vice President

John C. Manning
President

Lane G. Pratt
Historian

2011.

n August of 2007 high school graduates entered barracks as boys and girls, boys and girls that had nly a vague sense of success, challenge, and honor. Throughout the following months these individu-als developed not into a group of individuals, but an individual group. The process of developing into a lass has found many of us still struggling to keep up with the rigors of a system that tosses us about n a sea of stress and challenge. The time that we have spent in the Ratline has only given each one of us berthing in the vessel we will rig and sail for the remainder of the time we will spend at sea.

Third class year has found 2011 finally realizing the true spirit behind the uniform that we wear every-day. The barracks in which we live, and the honor code that is held above The Institute itself. We still find ourselves tossing amongst the waves of challenge, but we have developed our sea legs and the knowledge that will guide our voyage to the safety of friendly seas and ports.

Second class year will be our time not to heave the lines, drag chains, and rig our vessel for heavy seas. Second class year will be our time to begin to guide our newest shipmates and prepare them to one-day sail under their own efforts. However we will still be leading under the guidance of our most senior shipmates, 2010. With the guidance of 2010 and 2011's ability to weather the heaviest of seas we will forge our way to smooth waters.

2011, we leave in our wake the most difficult part of our voyage. Ring Figure and graduation lie like a beacon on our horizon. Keep our course true and our rigging strong and we will one day step onto land with the experience of weathered, honorable young men and women prepared to lead those who have not basked in the rain, wind, and sun of our experiences. Good luck and congratulations 2011.

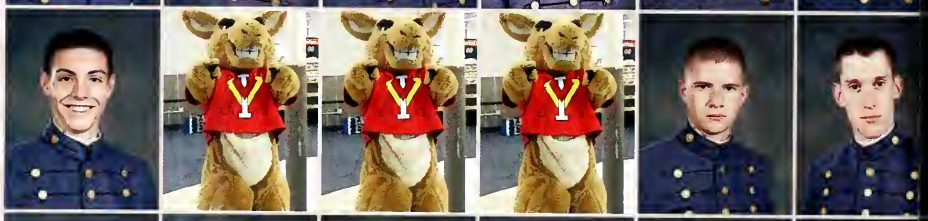
Written by John Twigg

Bryon Adams
David Adams
Grafton Addison IV
James Alexander
Briana Allard
Robert Anthes

Joshua Applewhite
Angelica Arenas
David Arthur
Benjamin Ashooh
Justin Ausborn
Burton Bacheller III

Aaron Baez
Sukhyun Baik
Chase Bailey
Andrea Baker
Henry Baker
Jennifer Ball

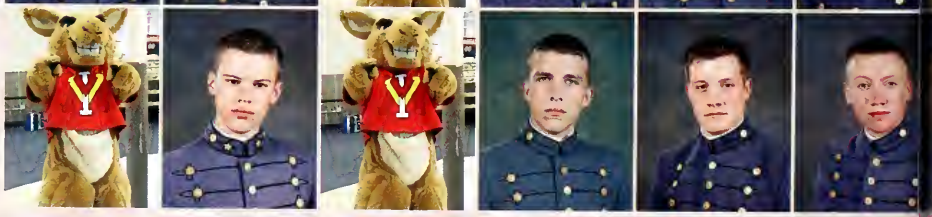
Jared Balsor
Ryan Barefoot
Bryan Barnson
Nicholas Bates
Brent Bayliss
Adam Becker



Heidi Beemer
Austin Benda
Matthew Biebel
Carl Biggs
Terrance Bishop
Adam Black

Brian Blincoe
Michael Blue
James Boatright
Kevin Bocanegra
Stephan Bohannon
Joshua Bookwalter

James Booth
James Bost III
Julian Bowers
Travis Bowman
Robert Boyer
Charles Bradford



Samuel Bridges
James Briggs
John Britt

Dalton Brockman
Quinn Brownfield
Timothy Brust

Joshua Bryan
Christopher Buck
Ryan Buell
Kobee Burnshire
Ryan Byars
Jackson Calhoun

Emilio Calvin
Ashley Camper
Joseph Cantafio
Elizabeth Carlos
Thomas Carnes
Christopher Cashen

Aaron Castro
Nicholas Chang
Robert Chenault
Ching Chen
Rory Chisholm
Solomon Choi

Jeremy Chuidian
Eric Church
Joseph Cicero
Jared Claus
James Clayton
Zachary Cline

Jason Cobb
Jerry Cole Jr
Robert Cole
Gabriel Colon
Daniel Concepcion
Christopher Conte

Ahmed Conteh
Matthew Covalt
Alexander Cowdry
Preston Craft
Patrick Crandall
Aaron Cregar

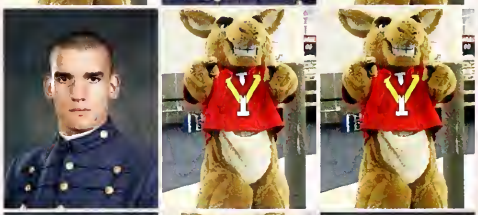
Alexander Crow
Richard Crozier
Isaac Cryder
Christopher Curtis
Karl Cutler
Travis Daniel

Cody Davis
Hunter Davis
Thomas Davis
Matthew Deacon
Jon Deane Jr
Anna DeFrank

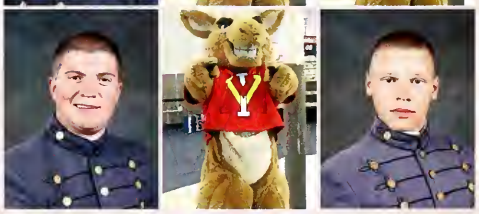
John Digan
Geoffrey Dinneen
Danielle Dove
Vinh Do
Kyle Drumheller
Steven Duke

Ronald Ellsworth
Daniel Emery
Nicholas Engle

Christopher Estrada
Garrett Evans
Jason Farley



John Fede
John Fiano
Thomas Fields



Corey Filla
Matthew Flora
John Folger IV
Christopher Forbes
Zachary Freitag
Michael Frossard

Christopher Fukui
David Gately
Christopher Gearhart
Joshua Geher
David Gerardo
Charlie Gerkin

Kyle Gianni
Gregory Gibbons
Caleb Gibson
Noah Gibson
Christopher Gingrich
Mario Giordani

Michael Girardi
Jarrod Girod
Brodie Gleason
Taylor Godsey
Kyle Goodale
James Gordon

Trenton Gordon
Hannah Granger
Sharif Gray
Thomas Graybeal
Adam Green
Terrance Green

Peter Griffin
Brandon Griffith
Arthur Gross
Chiesopher Gyamfuaa
Hope Hackemeyer
William Hagan III

Tracy Hairston
Alex Haitsuka
Christopher Hall
Thomas Hamlin
James Handler
Brian Harding

Aquisi Harris
Robert Harris Jr
Zachary Hartless
Marlena Hawes
Bruce Hazelgrove IV
James Hefner

John Held
Cory Hendley
Zachary Henke
Steven Henry
Jacob Hentges
Michael Herron

Alexander Herzog
Jerry Hickey Jr
Justin Hickman
Andrew Hilber
Lawrence Hill Jr
Katherine Hindley

Steven Hite
Hunter Houston
Min Hsieh
Zachary Huge
Roy Hunter
Kelson Hurley

Nicholas Ingold
Kai Ingram
Gabriel Itoka
Dennis James
Matthew Janak
Marshall Jarrett

Joshua Jeffcoat
Andrew Jeter
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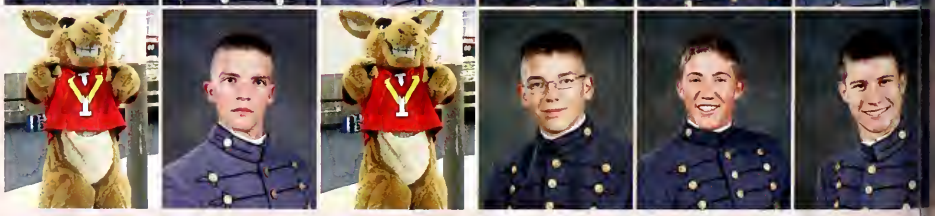
Brenton Jones
Cameron Jones

Chaz Jones
Matthew Jones
Robert Jones
Zebulon Jones
Matthew Jordan
Fredy Jurkowitsch II



Joseph Kang
Samuel Kang
Samuel Kang
Joseph Keese
Carolyn Kenaley
Christopher Kenney

Austin Kenon
Zachariah Kier
Joshua Kinder
Jenkyn Kittrell
Felix Kitur
Dylan Knehr

Adam Kruithof
Samuel Landry
Chad Lawson
Matthew Leccadito
Richard Lee
Sang Lee

Richard LeeJr
Luke Leichty
Patrick Leugers
Hung Li
James Lockett
Matthew Long

Thomas Louderback
Matthew Lowe
Jeremy Lucier
Andrew Luxhoj
Richard Lynch Jr
Daniel Mahaffey

John Manning Jr
Benjamin Martin
David Martin
Grant Martin
Grant Martin
John Martinez

Christopher Mayberry
Sean McAbee
Zipporah McCann
David McCown Jr
Thomas McDavid
Bryan McDonald

Casey McElligott
Nicholas McFarland
Foster McFather
George McIntyre III
Sean McLachlan
Daniel Michnewich

Colin Miller
Travis Miller
Christopher Milligan
Geophery Mills
Curtis Moore
Zachary Morgan

Clarke Morgret
Christopher Moser
Ermin Mujezinovic
Michael Munson
Douglas Nesmith
Christopher Newcomb

Ryan Nienstedt
Kara Noble
Jacob Norman
Chelsea Nugent
Jeremy O'Brien
Keith O'Donnell

Charles O'Ferrall
Denis O'Reilly
Thomas Pace
Samuel Palmer
Louis Papet III
William Park

Philip Parker
Matthew Parmer
Jordan Peck
Clint Pendleton
David Perry
Matthew Piazza

Zachry Pittard
Frank Powell Jr
Lane Pratt
Ethan Price
Spilman Pumphrey
Matthew Radi

Michael Rainey-Wiles
Adam Ralston
Alexander Ray
Jonathan Razack
Cierra Reaves
Angela Redmond

Stephen Redmond
Thomas Redmond
Tyler Reedy
Curtis Register
Jessica Rende
Laura Resetar

Zachary Rhoades
Stephen Rhodes
Norwood Richardson
John Roberts
Todd Robison II
Henry Rogers

Kyle Rose
John Rushton
Kenneth Sadler
Jonathan Santos
Stephen Sargent
Robert Saunders Jr

Alex Scaperotto
Robert Schaefer
Thomas Schirra
Heather Schmidt
Nadine Schumacher
Eric Scott

Mario Scott
Tyler Secrest
David Sernalulu

Colin Sexton
Kelly Shumaker
Justin Simmons

Kittisak Siripollawat
John Sisco
Brian Skiff
Andrew Smith
Benjamin Smith
Brian Sowell

Joshua Splinter
David Stecher
Richard Steinhoff Jr
James Stevenson
Robert Straskulic
David Stronko

Jonathan Stumpf Jr
John Sturgill
Graham Sullivan
Patrick Sweeney
Alexander Symons
Matthew Talbott

Rainier Tanglao II
Patrick Terhune
Matthew Thomas
Michael Thompson
Wade Thompson
Warner Thompson

Shayn Tierney
Korey Tighe
Mark Tomlin
Frank Tontala III
Justin Topping
William Truscott

Andrew Tunnell
Jonathan Twigg
Eric Tyson
Kyle Valente
Jared Varney
William Waldrop

Leo Walker
William Walker
Aaron Weiland
Korey Wessel
William Whitehead
Quinn Wicks

Matthew Wilcox
Shane Wilkinson
Daniel Williams
Kevin Williams
Lansing Wilson
Joshua Wine

Patrick Winkler
Eric Wittig
Adam Woloshuk
Travis Woods
Robert Wray III
Robert Wren

Heng Yen
Hisham Yousif
Nathaniel Zand
Kurt Zimmerman
Coleman Zwanzig

VMI

VMI

VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD CHENEY

A crowd of an estimated 3,000 watched as Vice President Richard B. Cheney strode onto VMI's Parade Ground just after 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 8, which was also VMI's Military Appreciation Day.

VMI Corps of Cadets marches in the President's Inaugural Parade

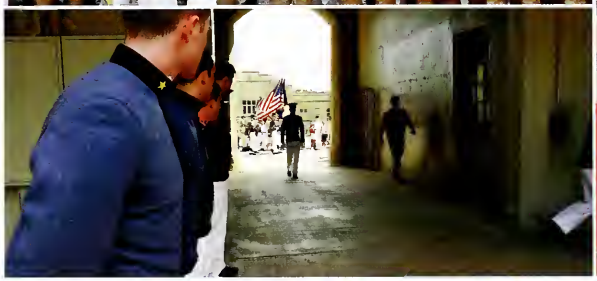
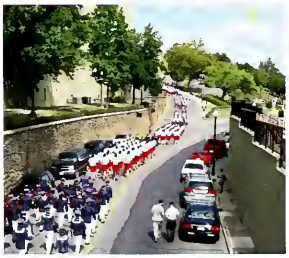
The Corps of Cadets marched past the presidential reviewing stand at President Obamas Inauguration and drew praise from the Superintendent.

"You were the best marching unit in the Inaugural Parade," Gen. J.H. Binford Peay III '62 said in a letter of congratulations to the cadets. "Your lines were straight, our vision direct and correct, and you marched with pride."

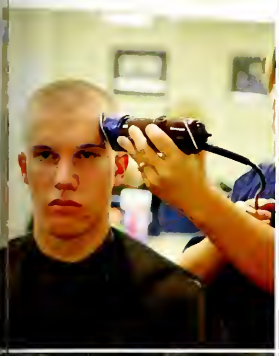
The Corps was placed at the end of the parade, he said, "for you were the finale."

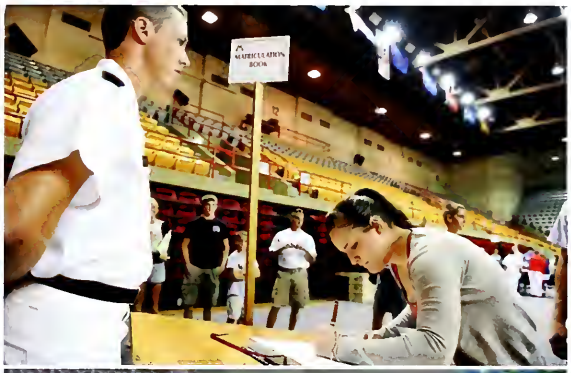
"It is a high honor for VMI to participate in the Presidential Inauguration," Peay said. "For these cadets, it will be an exciting and proud day in their time at VMI, and I expect it will be something they will look back on from a historic perspective with fondness and memories."

VMI Participation In Past Inaugural Parades
1909 - President Taft
1913 and 1917 - President Wilson
1949 - President Truman
1953 - President Eisenhower
1961 - President Kennedy
1969 and 1973 - President Nixon
1977 - President Carter
1981 - President Reagan
1989 - President George HW Bush
2005 – President George W. Bush
2009- President Barack Hussein Obama

The Class of 2012
Where it all started..





Christopher Adams
Bryant Ahn
Christopher Aiken
Bryce Aker
John Alerding IV
Sean Alexander

Douglas Alvey
Jordan Anderson
Nathaniel Anglin

Colin Antonucci
Sean Ayres
William Baber Jr

Robert Bailey
Randolph Baird
Clayton Ballowe

Franklin Banegas
Damien Bartholomew
Jacob Barton
Benjamin Beamer
Hunter Beasley
Alexander Benedick

Monica Bennett
Amanda Berrios
Ethan Betts
Harold Black Jr
Aaron Blosser
Zachary Bontrager

Colin Bosse
Jack Boswell
Christopher Bouldin
Benjamin Bowles
Michael Bowman
Zachary Boyce

Aaron Bradley
Justin Bradshaw
Matthew Brock
Christopher Broderick
Jeremy Brown
Kevin Brown

Brennan Buell
Stephen Buescher
Steven Bueso

Ronald Burks Jr
Kelly Burns
James Burton V

Brandon Butler
Anderson Caldwell Jr
Christopher Carr

Bradley Chamberlain
Szu Chang
Pattanun Chanpiwat
Joshua Chao
Joel Chapman
Timothy Chase

Trevor Childers
Ryan Chounard
Mark Christian Jr
Royce Chuang
Andy Chung
Charles Clopper

Daniel Clynes
Micah Coate
Edward Coglio
Janna Coleman
Yehonatan Colon
Christopher Comtois

Bridget Conley
Glenn Copenhaver III
Daniel Coughlan
Timothy Coveyou
Donnie Cox
Christopher Cranstone

Kyle Crocker
Kenneth Cross
Grant Curell
Matthew Dale
John Dalessandro
Stephen Davis

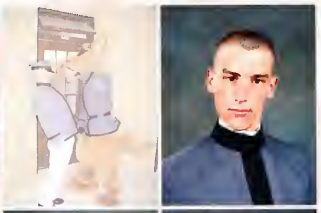
Andrew Deal
Raymond Delgado
Benjamin Denton
Frederick Derose
Matthew Dickinson
Dallas Disbro

Christian Dodge
Adrian Dominguez
Gabriel Dongieux
John Dongieux
Connor Downs
Jon Doxsee

Sean Dudek
Boris Duvnjak
Michael Dvine

Justin Dwight
Brian Eads
Robert Earle

Sean Eberle
Jon Ecklund
Matthew Elliott



Charles Ellison
Michael Everett

Riley Ewen
Jonathan Failinger

Samantha Farr
Matthew Ferguson
Daniel Fiasconaro
Michael Fiorelli
Alexander Firehammer
Tracey Fischer Jr

Erik Flading
Collin Flaherty
Robert Flaherty
Joseph Fleshman
Cody Franklin
Christopher Fraser

Kyle Fuller
Spencer Fuller
Keith Gabriel
Vincent Gallo
Richard Garcia
Brandon Gary

Nicholas Gelles
Bolivar Gil
William Gillogly
Christina Gontarski
James Goodwillie V
Bobby Gragg

Timothy Graziano
Daniel Greenlee
Timothy Gregory
Richard Griffith
Tyler Griffith
Michael Gwinn

Noah Hagos
Robert Hale
James Hardey
Richard Hargrove
Jasmine Hariston
Matthew Harper

Arthur Harrington
Kaitlin Harrison
David Hayes

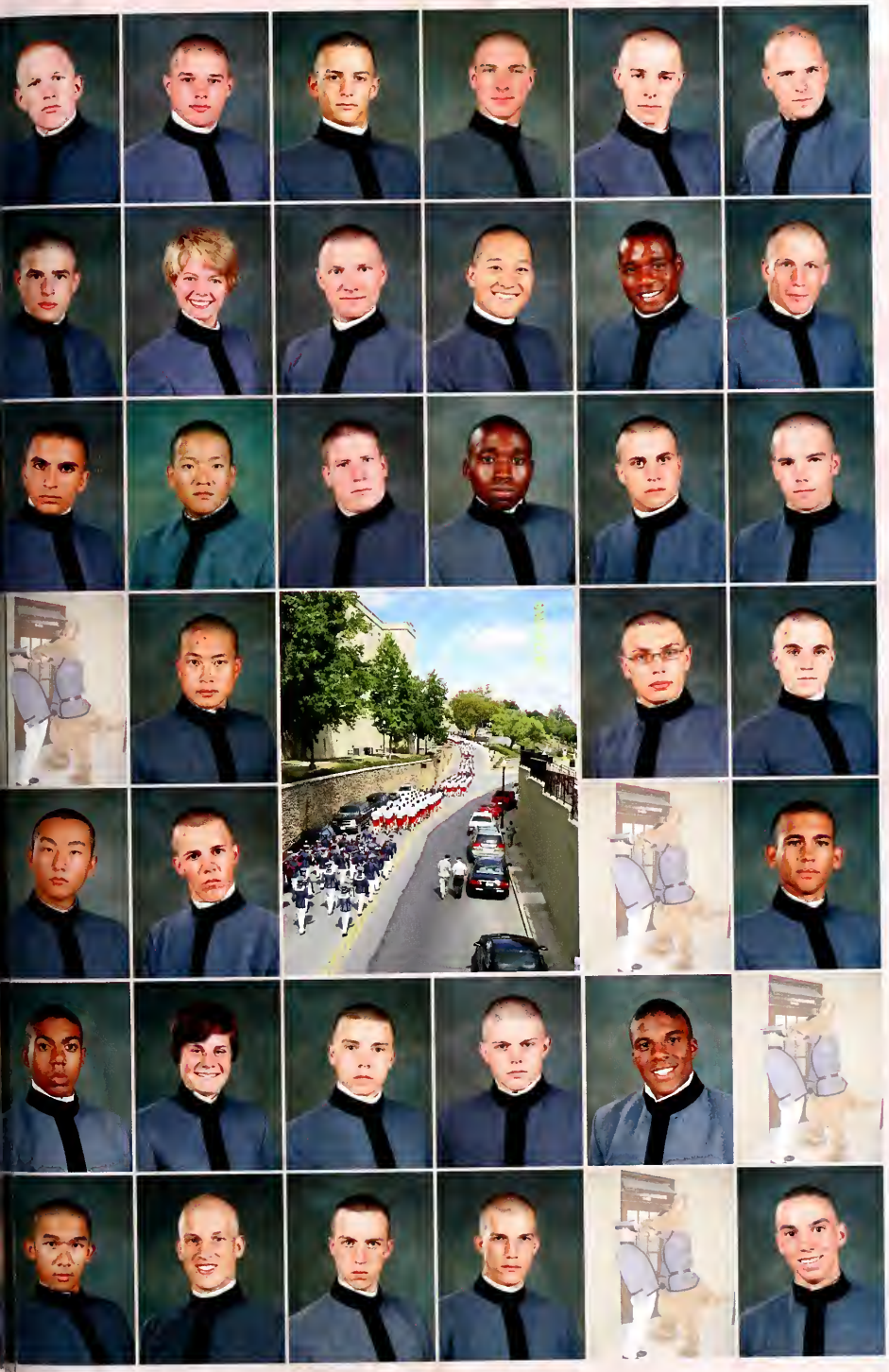
Kyle Hayes
Caleb Healy
Nathan Hebb

Gregory Hellenga
Shu HEM He
Ethan Hiltbold
Maxx Hipko
David Hively
Christopher Hodges

Kyle Hofstetter
Austin Hogan
Kevin Holdren
Ryan Holliday
Brendan Honeychuck
Steven Hong

Jacob Hooker
Torrance Hoover Jr
Benjamin Howard
Bruce Howard Jr
Alex Hufnagel
Joel Hutchens

Tyler Hutchens
Jordan Iida
Glen Ingham
Fayette Irby III
Nathan Iseman
Patrick Jackman



George Jamerson
Kyle James
Vincent Jarrells
Joseph Johnson
Timothy Johnson
Paul Jokiel

Logan Jones
Samantha Jones
Scott Jones
Min Jung
Patrick Karnwie
Thomas Kendzia III

John Khandan-Barani
Jae Kim
Riley King
Joakim Kiprotich
Christopher Kitchen
William Klick

Daniel Knick
Cheng Kuo
Yakov Kushnar
Peter Kwapisz

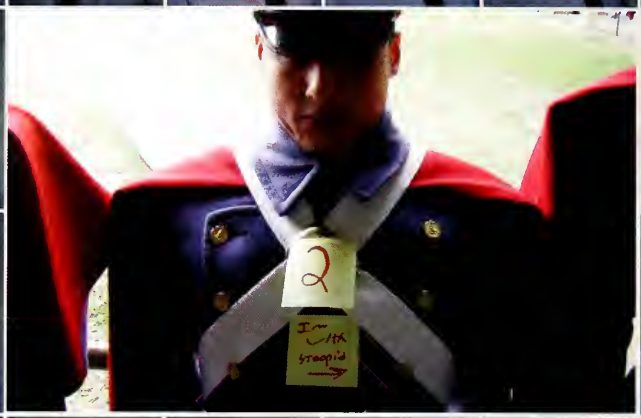
Taeseung Kwon
James La France
Kennedy Larramore
Stephen Lassiter

Ryan Lee
Veronica Lentsch
Drew Leonard
Bruce Leuthold Jr
Dwayne Lewis
Desiree Liang

Chan Liao
Paul Lingamfelter
Arthur Loefstedt IV
Keith Long
Adam Looney
Adam Lopez

William Loring
James Luckino
Richard Luck INO
Gregory Lum
Andrew Luna
Allen Lutz

Steven Lyle
Earnest Lynch



Joshua Lynch
Jacob MacIntyre

Silvia Madron
Stephen Magee
Kelly Maggio
Robert Main III
Matthew Marston
Adam Martin

Christopher Martin
Elisa Martinez
Alexander Mason
Gabrielle McCarron
Justin McCarthy
Logan McCloud

Michael McCollough
Chance McConnell
Charles McDonald
Corbin McKee
Kelly McMinn
Eric Mehaffey

Forrest Miller
Daniel Moerder
Olivia Moore
Jacob Morley
Arthur Morrill IV
Kelly Morrison

Let's welcome the newest class in barracks: THE CLASS OF 2012

Claiborn Mosk
Dion Mosley III
Joseph Munno
Santiago Munoz-Otalvaro
Cameron Murray

Steele Myers
Richard Naraine
David Neal II
Christian Neubaum
Stephen Newsome
Andrew Nieminski

Brandon Norem
Sean O'Regan
Diego Ortiz

Matthew Palmer
Bradley Parker
Lindsey Parkman

Jeremy Peed
Shane Perry
George Piccirilli
Jenna Pickett
Melvin Pierre III
James Poettker

Paul Ponsiglione
Brian Pool
Andrew Powell
Samantha Price
William Pugh IV
Samuel Ramirez

Zoe Ramsey
Curtis Rathbone
Marc Ray
Andrew Reavis
Kyle Reese
Byron Relyea
Aaron Remai

Michael Rementer
William Renfroe III
Bryan Reno
Henry Rhodenizer Jr
Robert Rice
Carson Richards

Kyle Richardson
Christian Richerson
Casey Riggs
James Rivas
Karter Rivera
Stephen Robarge

Mitchell Robbins
Colin Roberts
Nash Roberts
Sean Romoser
Christopher Rossie
Andy Ruan

Shaun Ruark
Eric Russo
Thomas Ryan
Todd Sager
Raquel Sanchez
Jeremiah Santana

Ryan Schade
Ryan Schaedel
Tice Schenkel
Ryan Schmidt
Mark Schumacher
Robert Seatherton

Andrew Self
Michael Shafer
Richard Sharp
Amir Shihata
Zaher Shihata
Jennifer Sing

Isaac Sireci
Garrett Slagle
Brandon Smith
D'Angelo Smith
William Smith
William Smith

Joshua Sneed
Trenton Snody

Tyler Snow
Ayao Sossou

Zachary Spain
Michael Sparks
Andrew Stahling Jr
Alexander Stalnaker
Barrett Statler
George Statzel IV

George Steele Jr
Gregory Stevens
Ross Stolle
David Stradford
Sarah Strand
Lucille Stratton

Michael Strobo Jr
Edward Surowiec Jr
Chad Sussman
Jesse Szwargulski II

Andrew Szymborski
Donald Talley
Lewedwyn Taylor
Hardy Temoney II

Jacob Tharp
Joshua Theroux
Dane Thornton
Juan Thrasher
Ademola Titcombe
Luke Todd

Christopher Tosetti
Mark Trent
Aaron Trujillo
Martin Tucker
Kylie Turner
Travis Uminski

Daniel Vaden
Walter Vanaman III
Christopher Venissat
Joshua Visconti
Spencer Wackelin
David Wagner Jr

Craig Waldman
Gregory Walker
Raymond Walker
Troy Warcewicz
Alan Watts
Kevin Webb

Zachary Webb
Mcdonald Wellford III
Charles Wheeler Jr

Walter Whitaker
Michael White
Samuel White

Wayne Whiting Jr
Dallas Wiggins
William Wild
Stewart Wilkinson
Thomas Winders
Andrew Wong

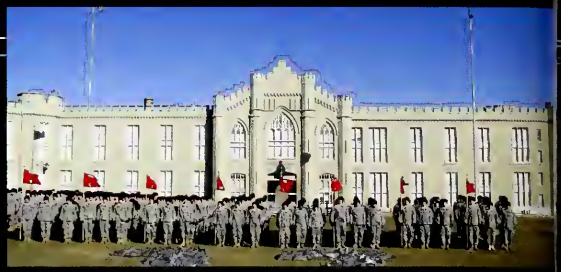
Jacob Wood
Caroline Wortham
Chase Worthington

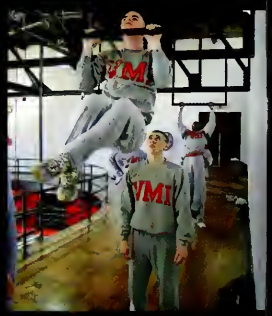
Xin Xie
Andrew Yancey
Chung Yang

Maxwell Yates
David Yost
Cody Young

Robert Young
Jacob Znachko

THE RAT MASS OF 2009 + 3

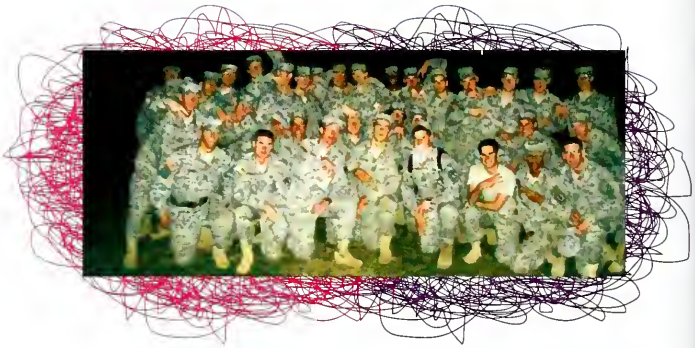




VMI
VMI

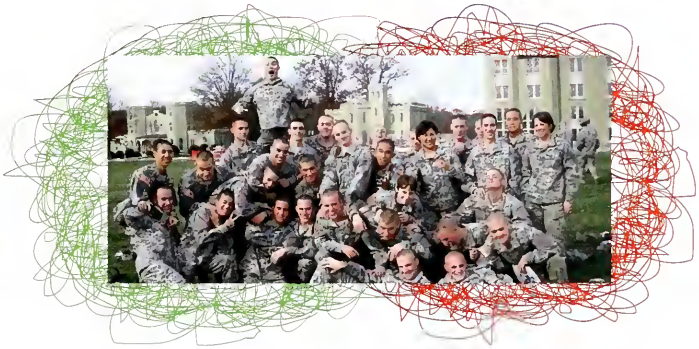
VMI
VMI

Rat Challenge 2009

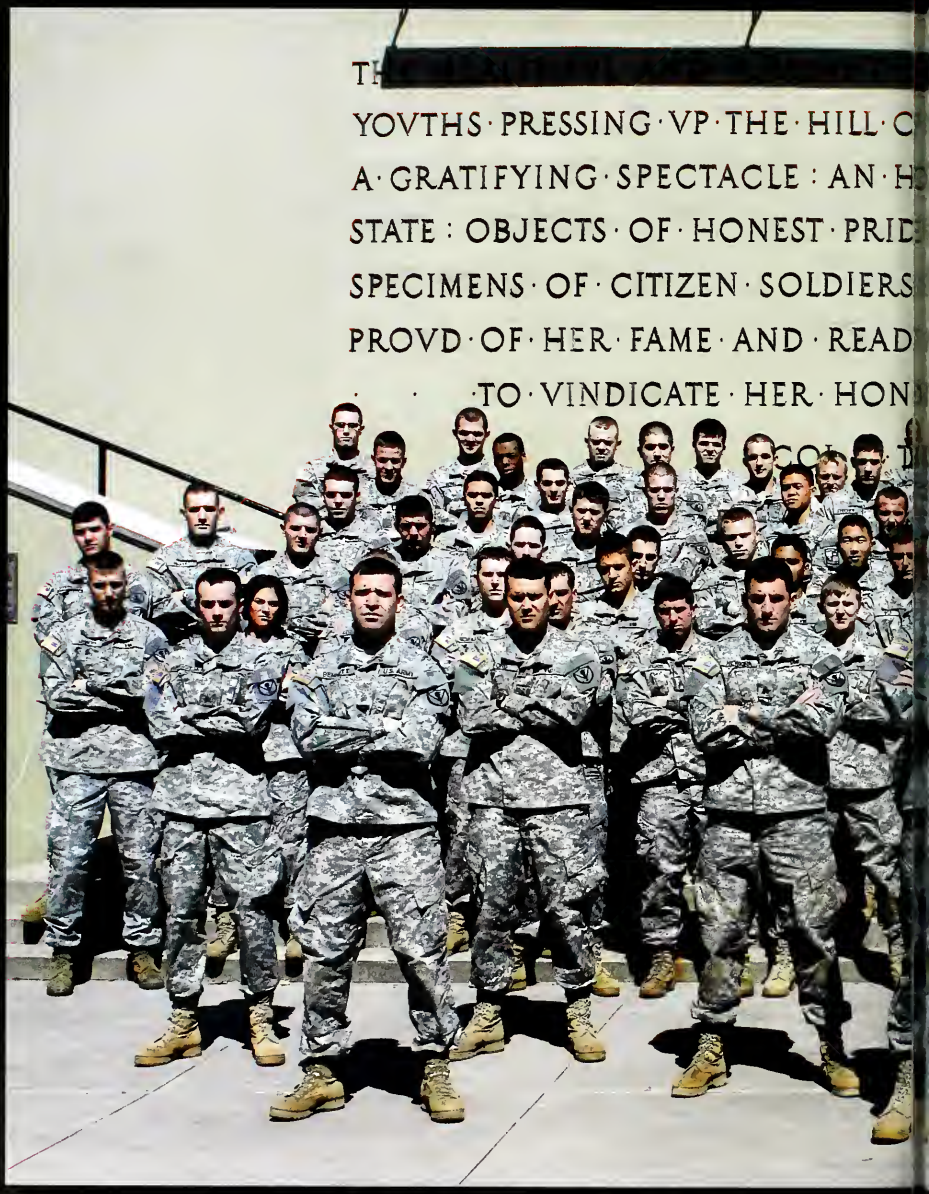


2009 CIC: Cadet Michael Cadice

2009 ACIC: Cadet Marshall Cox



VIRGINIA MILITARY INST



Regimental Commander: Cadet John Saunders
Regimental XO: Cadet Matthew Hyatt

ITUTE CADRE 2008-2009

Alpha Company CO: Cadet Trent Blackman
Bravo Company CO: Cadet John Alexander
Charlie Company CO: Cadet Roxanne Franck
Delta Company CO: Cadet Rick Newkirk
Echo Company CO: Cadet Graham Stolle
F-Trop Company CO: Cadet Nathan Goldsmith
Golf Company CO: Cadet Durham Snuffin
Hotel Company CO: Cadet Carter Murray

Introduction

LEADERSHIP

Might as well be done by a 6 foot Kangaroo

Disclaimer: Moe the Kangaroo is not a representation of any leadership position.

Chain of Command

Governor

Commander-In-Chief

Honorable Tim Kaine

Governor Timothy Kaine became the 70th Governor of Virginia on January 14, 2006. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Missouri in 1979 and graduated from Harvard Law in 1983. Throughout his tenure, Virginia had the highest median incomes as well as lowest unemployment rates in the nation. He led Virginia to be recognized as the most business-friendly state (Forbes.com 2006, 2007, 2008) in America and a state where "a child is most likely to succeed" (Education Week, 2007).

Governor Kaine was born in St. Paul, Minnesota and grew up in Kansas City. He is married to Anne Holton. They have three children: Nat, Woody, and Annelia.

Superintendent
General J. H. Binford Peay III

Virginia Military Institute's 14th Superintendent
VMI Class of 1962

Chief of Staff

COL Walter Chalkley
VMI Class of 1972
Chief of Staff

COL Michael Strickler
VMI Class of 1971
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Secretary to the Board of Visitors

LTC Marti Bissell
OSU Class of 1988
Assistant Chief of Staff

Commandant's Staff

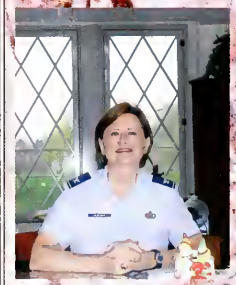
Colonel Thomas Trumps
Commandant

LTC Funkhouser

LTC Levenson

LTC Fridley

MAJ Faust



COL Hurlbut

COL Park

COL Moncure

COL Brodie

SGM Neel

Capt Perry

2LT Moore

Cadet Chain of Command

Zachary M. Youngsma
Regimental Commander

John M. Saunders
Regimental Commander

William M. Hyatt
Regimental Executive Officer

Karsten Bloomstrom
Regimental Sergeant Major

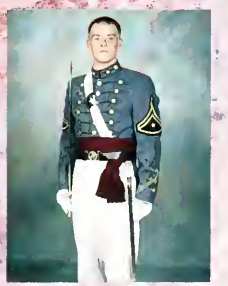
Jarrett L. Bennett

Gregory E. Lippiatt

Vincent W. Abruzzese
1st Battalion XO

John C. Collier
2nd Battalion XO

Samuel S. Dobbins
1st Battalion SGM



William R. Shannon
2nd Battalion SGM

S-1 Staff

Captain Alexander J. Snyder

Commander Kori

1Lt Christopher Brown

1Lt Albert Young

Sgt Michael Kromm

Sgt Marshall Cox

Sgt Jonathan Fanelli

S-2 Staff

Captain Nathaniel C. [illegible]

1Lt Joshua Kenny

1Lt Rammy Barbari

1Lt Matthew [illegible]

Sgt Charles Range

Sgt Lance Long

Sgt Virginia Taylor

Sgt [illegible]

S-3 Staff

Captain Andrew M. Krumm

[illegible] Adkins

1LT Joseph Bartol

1LT Christopher Ford

[illegible] Bowman

Sgt Christopher Curtis

Sgt Matthew Winks

S-4 Staff

Captain Joshua C. Brown

1LT Joshua Byerly

1LT William Ballou

1LT Julian Sculley

Sgt Jake Maier

Sgt Alexander Houser

Sgt Ahad Ahmed

S-5 Staff

Captain Holly A. Giacolone

[illegible] Alexander Brush

1LT Jasper Watkins

1LT Andrew Rice

Sgt Brian Bopp

Sgt Jonathan Price

[illegible] Matthew Graham

Sgt Bryan Cvengros

S-6 Staff

Captain Javed M. Klajnhous

SSgt Christopher Henderson

SSgt David Schluseman

SSgt Coriette Parson

Sgt Jacob Cox

Sgt Audrey Indrum

Sgt David Lottman

Sgt Timothy Howard

S-7 Staff

Captain Becky A. Harris

[illegible] Rogers

1LT Justin Wiczorek

1LT Kyle Johnson

[illegible] Pastor

Sgt Even T. Rogers

Sgt David Milligram

Color Sergeants

Color Sgts: Allen ML, Aya-ay EJ, Bustamante HR, Chang YW, Hafkemeyer JL, Harvey AD, Lindley SA, Melton CC, Miller AW, Morgan JD, Nguyen DV, Staton AK, Wang KC, Weschler LM

HARDCORE

ALPHA COMPANY

CAPTAIN ROBERT T. BLACKMAN

LIEUTENANT BRADLEY J. SIMPSON

1LT ALEX OLIVER

1LT AVA SCHULTZ

1LT MICHAEL HARVEY

1LT RHYS KELLER

AARON SAYERS

1ST SGT WHITCOMB

OPS SGT SHIRKEY

MASTER SGT GARRETT

Aguirre, Evan J.
Alexander, Damiso M.
Allen, Daniel C.
Appel, Robert W.
Bacci, Scott C.
Baez, Aaron M.
Barnett, Charles M.
Barnhill, Logan H.
Beemer, Heidi D.
Black, Adam J.
Blackman, Robert T.
Blosser, Aaron M.
Bocanegra, Kevin M.
Bookwalter, Joshua C.
Bowman, Travis J.
Boyce, Zachary D.
Brister, John E.
Brownfield, Quinn T.
Burns, Kelly E.
Cadice, Michael D.
Chisholm, Rory T.
Christian Jr, Mark A.
Clark, Ryan J.
Correll, William R.
Cox, Jonathan H.
Craddock, Jarrett A.
Cranstone, Chris J.
Daniel, Jessica A.
Davis, Cody M.
deLatour, Patrick K.
Drakic, Andrija N.
Duncan, Thomas A.
Duty, Christopher D.
Ellis, Frank L.
Estrada, Christopher R.
Ewen, Riley
Farley, Jason E.
Farr, Samantha K.
Favaro, Joshua L.
Fendley, Robert L.
Finger, Kevin P.
Flaherty, Collin C.
Franklin, Cody J.
Frantz Jr, Richard T.
Fuller, Spencer G.
Garcia, Richard A.
Garrett, Davis R.
Gibbons, Gregory E.
Gingrich, Christopher J.
Gleason, Brodie L.
Green, Adam P.
Griffith, Brandon A.
Gross, Abram A.
Hagan III, William C.
Haitsuka, Alex K.
Handler, James H.
Harrison, Kaitlin M.
Hartless, Zachary W.
Harvey Jr, James M.
Hennelly, Cody J.
Herzog, Alexander P.
Hilbold, Ethan N.
Hite, Steven W.
Hodsden Jr, Bridger L.
Holmes, Chavis L.
Howard, Benjamin D.
Hummer II, James R.
Johnson, Joseph R.
Johnson, Michael D.
Josey, Carl S.
Keese, Joseph M.
Keller, Austin C.
Keller, Rhys A.
Kendzia III, Thomas A.
Kenney, Christopher R.
Knight, Conard J.
Kunz, Carter L.
Lamneck, Kate M.
Leccadito, Matthew T.
Leonard, Drew B.
Lowe, Matthew S.
Luna, Andrew P.

Lynch, Earnest T.
MacIntyre, Jacob S.
Martin, Christopher B.
Matson, Nicholas B.
McCloud, Logan W.
McGeorge, R.H.
McPherson, Joshua B.
Mercedes, Gilbert M.
Minis, Nicholas R.
Morley, Jacob A.
Morton, Jacklyn D.
Mosnatt-Lorenzo, Patrick R.
Munson, Michael R.
Murray, Cameron R.
Nicotera, Charles X.
Niemiński, Andrew J.
Nweke, Anthony C.
O'Ferrall, Charles R.
Oliver, Alex F.
O'Reilly, Denis L.
Palmer, Samuel C.
Park Jr, William E.
Pendleton, Clint E.
Pierre II, Melvin
Ray, Marc D.
Razack, Jonathan C.
Redmond, Stephen P.
Register, Curtis C.
Reyes, Byron W.
Reno, Bryan S.
Rhodenizer Jr, Henry L.
Riggs, Jacob T.
Roberts, John S.
Robertson, Benjamin W.
Rodgers, Henry L.
Russell, Stephen T.
Sagar, Matthew H.
Santana, Jeremiah E.
Sayers, Aaron P.
Schultz, Ava A.
Semalulu, Daud A.
Shirkey, Johnathan J.
Simpson, Bradley J.
Smith, Benjamin A.
Smith, Shannon D.
Sowell, Brian P.
Sparks, Michael A.
Stafford, Kelsey L.
Stalnaker, Alexander L.
Steele Jr, George G.
Strand, Sarah E.
Stumpf Jr, Jonathan C.
Szwargulski I, Jesse L.
Tomlin, Mark D.
Uminski, Travis J.
Walker, Raymond A.
Webb, Kevin R.
Wellford II, McDonald
Welsh, Daniel L.
Whitcomb, Weston D.
Wickersham Jr, Charles L.
Williams, James Z.
Wood, Jacob A.
Xie, Xin W.
Young, Robert P.
Zelna, Michael D.

BALL-BUSTIN'

BRAVO COMPANY

CAPTAIN JOHN T. ALEXANDER

LIEUTENANT CHRISTOPHER R. JOHNSTON

No picture provided.

LT DAVID JONES

LT MATTHEW GLOMB

LT STEPHEN ANDERSON

LT ERIC KEIRSTEAD

SERGEANT NASH

1ST SGT BECKSTRAND

OPS SGT BOND

MASTER SGT KARONIS

Adams, David C.
Adldoost, Andrew M.
Alexander III, John T.
Anderson, Stephen B.
Andueza III, Jose G.
Baker, Robert E.
Ballard, Jordan W.
Barrow, Mervin L.
Beach, Christine M.
Beamer, Benjamin L.
Beckstrand, Alex J.
Benedick, Alexander J.
Bennett, Monica P.
Betts, Ethan L.
Bond, Thomas J.
Booth, Kevin T.
Bosse, Colin F.
Bowers, Julian J.
Bowman, Jason M.
Bowman, Joseph M.
Bradford, Charles J.
Bradshaw, Justin A.
Buell, Brennan C.
Cantrell, Hunter B.
Carlton Jr., William R.
Chao, Joshua H.
Chuidian, Jeremy G.
Clopper, Charles B.
Coate, Micah M.
Collins, Zachary T.
Comtois, Christopher J.
Cortes, Christian
Crandall, Patrick D.
Crocker, Kyle R.
Davis, Stephen F.
Desch III, Edward J.
Dodge, Christian S.
Dommert, Christopher P.
Downs, Connor T.
Dunaway Jr., Dennis M.
Eggleston, Patrick D.
Engle, Nicholas V.
Evans, Garrett R.
Farley, Taylor L.
Felts, Benjamin W.
Feole, Michelle P.
Firehammer, Alexander R.
Flaherty, Robert T.
Gately, David R.
Gerardo, David E.
Gerkin, Charlie D.
Gil, Bolivar
Gillogly, William N.
Glomb, Matthew J.
Godsey, Taylor D.
Hagos, Noah
Hebb, Nathan D.
Hentges, Jacob B.
Hickey Jr., Jerry L.
Hill, Joshua D.
Hindle Jr., Robert L.
Hlavaty, Dana J.
Hoyt, Tory K.
Hutchings, Michael B.
Ingold, Nicholas W.
Johnston, Christopher R.
Jones, Brenton T.
Jones, Daniel D.
Karonis IV, Peter J.
Keirstead, Erik M.
Kitur, Felix K.
Kitur, Felix K.
Klick, William B.
Kosecki, Chelsea M.
Kruithof, Adam T.
Kwon, Taeseung
Lynch, Joshua D.
Madron, Silvia C.
Magee, Stephen G.
Main III, Robert L.
Maloney, Patrick A.
Mazicioglu, Dogucan

McKeen, Aaron C.
McLachlan, Sean K.
Meñaffey, Eric C.
Mendillo, Christopher J.
Messina Jr., David C.
Miles, David M.
Mujezinovic, Ermin
Munoz-Otalvaro, Santiago
Myers III, Steele T.
Nash, Steven H.
Newsome, Stephen G.
Nienstedt, Ryan R.
O'Brien, Jeremy A.
Ortiz, Stephanie M.
Page, Thomas N.
Peck, Jordan M.
Peeler, Brian A.
Pickett, Jenna M.
Pickett, Jenna M.
Pittard, Zachry M.
Poettker, James G.
Redmond, Angela A.
Rementer, Michael J.
Robison II, Todd L.
Ryan, Thomas J.
Saunders, Thomas M.
Schumacher, Mark A.
Scott, Mario N.
Self, Andrew H.
Shafer, Michael A.
Sireci, Isaac J.
Sneed, Joshua R.
Stradford, David T.
Stratz, Brandon M.
Sundbeck Jr., Michael T.
Suttenfield, Emerson T.
Swanson, Logan K.
Szymborski, Andrew J.
Taylor, Joseph J.
Terhune, Patrick K.
Thompson, Warner C.
Thornton, Dane M.
Trotman, Owen T.
Trujillo, Aaron J.
Underwood, Kathleen T.
Wei, Kang-Hung
Weimer, Jacob L.
Whitten, Sarah V.
Winders, Thomas R.
Winkler, Patrick A.
Witcher, John K.
Worthington, Chase P.
Wright, Jonathan W.
Zarycki, Christopher S.
Ziobro, Celine M.

COLD STEEL

CHARLIE COMPANY

CAPTAIN ROXANNE M. FRANCK

LIEUTENANT MITCHELL A. RESS

1LT DANIEL HINGLEY

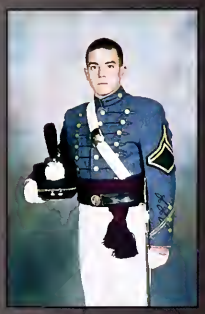
1LT STEPHEN NICHOLS

1LT BRYCE CARTER

1LT JOSHUA DALY

[illegible] MARGESON

1ST SGT BATTY

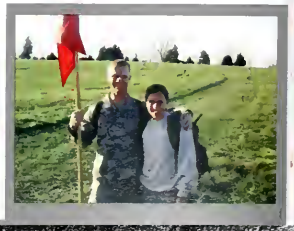


OPS SGT ROWCLIFFE

MASTER SGT ROBERTSON

Abdurrahim, Hamid K.
Alexander III, James W.
Anderson II, Neal N.
Anglin, Nathaniel R.
Ausborn, Justin P.
Baity, Andrew W.
Barnes, Joel R.
Barnson, Bryan S.
Bowles, Benjamin T.
Bradshaw Jr, James B.
Braun, Kyle D.
Brock, Matthew R.
Brockman, Dalton M.
Broderick, Christopher M.
Carmen, Zachary C.
Carter, Bryce A.
Cary, Stephen G.
Chamberlain, Bradley A.
Chen, Ching-Hang
Choi, Solomon
Chounard, Ryan N.
Clementson, Luke A.
Connolly, Brian C.
Cowdry, Alexander M.
da Cunha, Gareth E.
Dalessandro, John M.
Daly, Joshua E.
Daniel, Travis L.
Denton, Benjamin D.
DeVaik, Paul B.
Devine, Michael M.
Eberle, Sean A.
Ellison, Charles G.
Ellsworth Jr, Ronald
Englehart, Matthew J.
Faison, Michael A.
Feldmann, William R.
Fiorelli, Michael J.
Flading, Erik M.
Francis, Kyle W.
Franck, Roxanne M.
Franklin, Conor B.
Fuller, Kyle D.
Gallo, Vincent M.
Gardner, Mitchell J.
Girod, Jarrod A.
Gontarski, Christina L.
Grabill, Adam J.
Gragg, Bobby A.
Gray III, Garland
Graybeal, Thomas B.
Green, Terrance J.
Griffith, Tyler C.
Habersang, Dennis M.
Hale, Robert A.
Harding, Brian J.
Harrelson, Nicholas J.
Harris, Aquisi M.
Harvey, Bradley N.
Hayes Jr, David C.
Henry, Steven R.
Hernandez, Adam S.
Herron, Michael C.
Hingley, Daniel M.
Hunt, Austin L.
Ingram, Kai S.
Iseman, Nathan T.
Johnson, Timothy V.
Jones, Matthew R.
Jones, Scott T.
Keith, Alan W.
Kennedy, Sean M.
Kenon, Austin M.
Kerr, Steven M.
Kosecki, Derek J.
Kwapisz, Peter M.
Leland, Derrick S.
Lentsch, Veronica J.
Loring, William B.
Lutz, Allen H.
Martin, Adam D.
Maurice, John S.

McDonald, Charles J.
Mills, Geophery A.
Montoya, Michael A.
Moore, Jacob M.
Moran, Timothy J.
Morgan, Zachary R.
Naylor, Robert J.
Nichols, Stephen C.
Padgett, David A.
Page, Brandon A.
Parker, Philip E.
Perry, Shane M.
Petereit, Derek A.
Phillips, Randy O.
Pillow, Patrick S.
Ponsiglione, Paul J.
Quarles, William C.
Reavis, Andrew L.
Renfroe III, William T.
Ress, Mitchell A.
Richards, Carson S.
Robbins, Mitchel M.
Robertson Jr, Michael A.
Robertson, Jacob A.
Romaine, William T.
Rowcliffe, William M.
Russo, Eric L.
Sager, Todd A.
Sandridge, Brian E.
Schultheis, Jacob C.
Seymour, Jordan M.
Sheehan, John A.
Simpson, Patrick G.
Sisco Jr, John M.
Smith, Travis
Snody, Trenton D.
Splettstoesser, Lincoln F.
Stevens, Gregory E.
Stilla, Brandon M.
Stull, Ryan A.
Sturgill, John R.
Surowiec Jr, Edward A.
Swindell Jr, Levi A.
Taylor, Alexander J.
Thompson, Michael B.
Thrasher, Juan E.
Treacy, Miles P.
Taff, Ateala L.
Wackelin, Spencer C.
Walker, Neil C.
Warcewicz, Troy J.
Wasson, Myles F.
Webb, Christopher L.
Wessel, Korey S.
Williams, Chandale N.
Wirth, Paul R.
Wren, Robert L.
Yancey, Andrew P.
Yates, Maxwell L.



MAD - DOG

DELTA COMPANY

CAPTAIN RICHARD H. NEWKIRK

LIEUTENANT KEVIN C. PELLETIER

1LT JOSHUA GERARDO

1LT MICHAEL KIM

1LT IAN WILLIAMS

1ST SGT STOCKMAN

OPS SGT FAULCONER

MASTER SGT FOX

n, Bryant C.
nnes, Robert W.
enas, Angelica E
ker, Chad A.
llowe, Clayton E.
negas, Franklin J.
rton, Jacob C.
ntrager, Zachary P.
wman, Michael W.
ewer, Daniel C.
dges, Samuel C.
own, Kevin T.
escher, Stephen G.
eso, Steven J.
mpbell III, Nicholas M.
mes, Thomas W.
rtwright, Jarrod D.
anplwat, Pattanun
oper, Nicholas A.
veyou, Timothy M.
wart III, Donald R.
Cox, Donnie S.
Crean, Ryan C.
Crozier, Richard T.
Custer, Clinton R.
Disbro, Dallas J.
Duffy, John M.
Earle, Robert T.
Ecklund, Jon H.
Edwards, Travis A.
Eftekhar, Reza
Eurtt, Tristan S.
Faulconer, Andrew L.
Fiano, John M.
Flasconaro, Gregory E
Fitzgerald, Jeremiah C.
Fleenor, Andrew D.
Fox, Shawn A.
Fukui, Christopher N.
Gelles, Nicholas C.
Gerardo, Joshua M.
Glass III, Donald M.
Gilebe, Mark E.
Good, Adam F.
Goodwillie V, James G.
Gottwald, Thomas D.
Graham, Shawn P.
Graziano, Timothy M.
Grey, David G.
Hackemeyer, Hope E.
Hall, Christopher H.
Harrington, Arthur W.
Harris Jr., Robert R.
Hawes, Marlena E.
Hayes, Kyle P.
He, Shu-Hui
Held, John D.
Hively, David H.
Holliday, Ryan E.
Honeychuck, Brendan
Hozik, Richard M.
Hufnagel, Alex M.
Hutchens, Joel A.
Ingham, Glen T.
Irby III, Fayette R.
Irby, Zane H.
James, Kyle T.
Jones, Zebulon N.
Kang, Joseph S.
Kannwie, Patrick
Kim, Michael J.
Kimsey, Benjamin E
Kyler, Benjamin G.
Landt, Preston M.
Larramore, Kennedy S.
Lee, HsinSheng
Lee, Sang H.
Liang, Desiree S.
Lin, Chien-Chun
Lloyd, Stephen J.
Luxhoi, Kenneth B.
MacDonald, Scott T.
Markow, Julie M.

Martin, David B.
McCord, Daniel T.
McGraw, Daniel G.
McMinn, Kelly M.
Miller, James E.
Minter, Justin S.
Newkirk, Richard H.
Nikmard, Mikyle A.
Norem, Brandon E.
Olson, Brock J.
Pace, Thomas H.
Parker, Daniel G.
Pelletier, Kevin C.
Phelps, John L.
Piccirilli, George A.
Radke, David R.
Rainey-Wiles, Michael A.
Reedy, Tyler S.
Richardson II, Norwood R.
Roberts, Colin A.
Rossie, Christopher A.
Ruan, Andy Y.
Saunders Jr., Robert S.
Sewell, Tanner H.
Simmons, Justin M.
Siripollawat, Kittisak
Smith, William T.
Somma, Christopher D.
Stanislawski, Daniel
Statler, Barrett A.
Stecher, David W.
Stewart, Neil A.
Stockman III, Robert T.
Stolle, Ross S.
Talbott, Matthew M.
Tanglao II, Rainier
Thieroux, Joshua R.
Thompson, Fletcher S.
Tierney, Shayn P.
Titcombe, Ademola P.
Trask, Douglas C.
Vazquez, Saif A.
Walker, Gregory D.
Ward, Casey A.
Webb, Zachary L.
Williams, Ian M.
Woo, Paul C.
Wright, Mathew T.
Yang, Chung-Yen
Youngblood Jr., Bryant L
Yousif, Hisham M.

TIGER

ECHO COMPANY

Captain Graham M. Stolle

Lieutenant Hamilton H. Harris

1st Lt Omar Rosarda

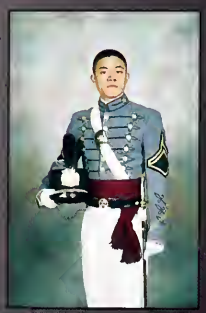
1st Lt Remington Adams

1st Lt Kevin Snevely

1st Lt Noah Scribner

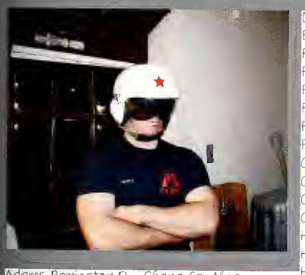
Ensign Washbish

1st Sgt Farley



Ops Sgt Wongkachonkitti

Master Sgt Kirchner



Adams, Remington D.
Aikens, Adam S.
Allgood Jr, Ottie E.
Alto, Andrew J.
Anderson, Jordan W.
Baird, Randolph K.
Beasley, Hunter T.
Berenholtz, Evan S.
Bice Jr, David B.
Bouldin, Christopher L.
Bradley, Aaron J.
Brown, Nathaniel D.
Byam, Tyler A.
Cantafio, Joseph J.
Carideo, James A.
Carr, Christopher D.
Chang, Szu-Ning
Chapman, Joel B.
Chuang, Royce J.
Clayton, James P.
Cline, Zachary T.
Colon, Yehonatan T.
Conteh, Ahmed O.
Cooper, Jeffrey R.
Corley, Brian A.
Cross, Kenneth J.
Curell, Grant E.
Dinneen, Geoffrey M.
Do, Vinh Q.
Dongieux, John R.
Downing, David C.
Dudek, Sean T.
Dwight, Justin T.
Elgert, Kyle M.
Failinger, Jonathan P.
Farley, Evan A.
Ferro, Jonathan S.
Fiasconaro, Daniel J.
Fields, Thomas W.
Frederick, Daniel K.
Giordani, Mario R.
Gomez, Angie
Griffin, Kevin W.
Gyamfuaa, Chiesopher
Haines, Andrew C.
Harris, Hamilton H.
Holdren, Kevin S.
Hooker, Jacob K.
Horne, Jonathan R.
Huffman II, Michael S.
Hunter II, Roy M.
Hutchens, Tyler E.
Iida, Jordan M.
Jackson, Eric D.
Jarrells, Vincent A.
Jones, Robert E.
Jurkowitsch II, Fredy W.
Kang, Samuel S.
Kier, Zachariah A.
Kiprotich, Joakim K.
Kiprotich, Joakim K.
Kirchner, Raymond A.
Kuo, Cheng-Wei
Leuthold Jr, Bruce T.

Liao, Chan-Yi
Lincoln, Charles P.
Long, Michael A.
Luckino, James F.
Lyle, Steven H.
McFather, Foster S.
Miller, Mark W.
Molina, Brian H.
Moore, Olivia L.
Nugent, Chelsea M.
Piazza, Matthew A.
Pohlman, Philip J.
Price, Samantha D.
Prioletti, Anthony J.
Purpura, Michael J.
Ramsey, Zoe E.
Rosarda, Thelmar A.
Ross, Connor J.
Sadler, Kenneth D.
Scaperotto, Alex M.
Scott, Eric B.
Scribner, Noah L.
Smith, Brandon A.
Snevely, Kevin M.
Sossou, Ayao A.
Stolle, Graham M.
Strand, Megan E.
Strobo Jr, Michael R.
Stronko, David J.
Todd, Luke J.
Tunnell, Andrew C.
Tyson, Eric S.
Varney, Jared R.
Venissat, Christopher W.
Waldman, Craig R.
Washbish, Andrew D.
Wheeler Jr, Charles G.
Whitehead, William A.
Wiggins, Dallas L.
Wild, William J.
Winoker, Jonathan N.
Wongkachonkitti, Shawn W.
Wu, Lieh-Hao
Yen, Heng-You
Yoder, Aaron J.
Yost, David E.

F- TROOP

FOXTROT COMPANY

Captain Nathan B. Goldsmith

Lieutenant Richard B. Gammon

1Lt Drew Thompson

1Lt Alex Harms

Christopher Lilly

1Lt Andy Zyra

No picture provided.

Richard Pfrogner

1st Sgt Dixon

Ops Sgt Buckland

Master Sgt Raine

Abegesah, Howard A.
Aiken, Christopher R.
Alerding IV, John E.
Alfree, Rory P.
Allard, Briana H.
Allen, Byron C.
Antonucci, Colin M.
Bacheller III, Burton P.
Bailey Jr, Paul S.
Bartholomew, Damien D.
Belt II, Silas A.
Berrios, Amanda C.
Blincoe, Brian D.
Boatright III, James T.
Brown, Carter L.
Brown, Jeremy E.
Buckland, Jonathan L.
Caporiccio, Michael A.
Chung, Andy J.
Cicero, Joseph R.
Claus, Jared T.
Cobb, Jason A.
Coglio, Edward A.
Copenhaver III, Glenn T.
Cruz, Edwin J.
Cunningham, Joseph R.
DeGennaro, George M.
Dionne, Andrew G.
Dixon, Joshua R.
Dobbins, Elizabeth C.
Everett, Michael T.
Frossard, Michael J.
Gammon, Richard B.
Gary, Brandon C.
Goldsmith, Nathanial B.
Granger, Hannah E.
Green, Kenneth S.
Griffith, Richard A.
Handler IV, George L.
Hardey, James W.
Harms, Alexander J.
Hazelgrove IV, Bruce R.
Hersh, Gregory R.
Hofstetter, Kyle P.
Hoover Jr, Torrance D.
Hughes, Joshua A.
Hughes, Kyle R.
Imatani, Jarrod S.
James II, Dennis J.
Jeffcoat, Joshua A.
Joerdens IV, Philip J.
Johnson, Stefanie M.
Johnstone II, Alan M.
Joliel, Paul A.
Jones, Chaz D.
Kang, Samuel K.
Kelly III, John P.
Khandan-Barani, John A.
Korbely IV, Anthony J.
LaFrance, James J.
Landry, Samuel N.
Lawson, Chad A.
Lee, Ryan A.
Lewis, Bryce R.
Lilly, Christopher P.
Loefstedt IV, Arthur B.
Lucier, Jeremy T.
Lum, Gregory S.
Lund, Michael W.
Maggio, Kelly F.
Martin, Grant K.
Martinez, Elisa A.
McAbee, Sean J.
McCarthy III, Justin H.
McKinley, Lauren E.
Miller, Colin B.
Moore, Curtis A.
Morrill IV, Arthur B.
Naraine, Richard S.
Neal II, David G.
Nesmith, Douglas S.
Norman, Jacob S.
Ortiz, Diego A.

Papet III, Louis M.
Parmer, Matthew R.
Patterson IV, Lowell H.
Perestock, Daniel P.
Pfrogner II, Richard W.
Powell, Andrew E.
Price, Ethan R.
Rademaker, Andrew R.
Rademaker, Andrew R.
Raine Jr, Randolph C.
Ralston, Adam T.
Reese, Kyle D.
Richerson, Christian T.
Robarge, Stephen T.
Rohls, Ashley M.
Romoser, Sean M.
Ruark, Shaun P.
Schade, Ryan P.
Sculley, Matthew J.
Seatherton, Robert E.
Shihata, Zaher H.
Skiff, Brian J.
Slagle, Garrett W.
Snow, Tyler W.
Spahr, Ryan G.
Splinter, Joshua M.
Stahling Jr, Andrew T.
Starsman, Raymond E.
Taylor, Lewedwyn K.
Temoney II, Hardy L.
Thompson, Drew E.
Tontala III, Frank J.
Toomey, Joshua K.
Vaden, Daniel B.
Valente, Kyle A.
VenteicherShulman, Bryceon P.
Wade, Alexander M.
Watkins III, James E.
Watts, Alan A.
Wicks, Quinn C.
Wine, Joshua A.
Wine, Joshua A.
Wittig, Eric E.
Zimmerman, Kurt A.
Zyra, Andrew E.

BLOOD & GUT

GOLF COMPANY

Captain Durham J. Snuffin

Lieutenant Keith L. Taylor

Lt Josef Schroeder

No picture provided.

Lt Charles Snyder

Lt Ross Ramsay

Lt Garth Willard

Joshua Gober

1st Sgt Squire

Ops Sgt Bisulca

Master Sgt McMullen

Adams, Andrew A.
Aker, Bryce R.
Alexander, Sean M.
Alvey, Douglas J.
Ashooh, Benjamin J.
Ayres, Sean E.
Baber Jr., William C.
Baker, Andrea J.
Ball, Jennifer D.
Benda, Austin J.
Biggert, Nicholas D.
Bisulca, Jonathan C.
Brinkman, Justin T.
Bryan, Joshua S.
Burns, Sloan C.
Cashen, Christopher W.
Chapman, Thomas C.
Conte, Christopher W.
Coughlan, Daniel W.
Crouse, Lloyd R.
Crowder II, Charles C.
Davis, Ericsson W.
Deacon, Matthew T.
Deal, Andrew C.
Deane Jr., Jon B.
Delgado, Raymond A.
Dongieux, Gabriel J.
Duke, Steven G.
Fernandes, Jamie B.
Fischer Jr., Tracey A.
Flora, Matthew W.
Franchella, Maria N.
Freitag, Zachary A.
Gefer, Joshua J.
Gibson, Noah J.
Gift, Matthew L.
Gober, Joshua T.
Gordon III, James H.
Gross Jr., Arthur S.
Gwinn, Michael T.
Hanson, Sara L.
Hargrove, Richard S.
Hickman, Justin E.
Horgan, Andrew R.
Hosey, Andrew M.
Howard Jr., Bruce L.
Jones, Cameron D.
Jones, Samantha L.
Jung, Min K.
Kerr, James T.
Kitchen, Christopher E.
Knick Jr., Daniel W.
Lassiter, Stephen D.
Leichty, Luke B.
Leonard, Brett A.
Li, Hung-Xin
Lingamfelter, Paul S.
Lochart, David N.
Looney, Adam J.
Louthan, Michael R.
Luck, Richard S.
Lukenbill, Michelle E.
Madsen, Niels A.
Martin, Grant D.
McConnell, Chance J.
McFarland, Nicholas E.
McKee, Corbin S.
McMullen, Robert P.
Michnewich, Daniel A.
Moerder, Daniel H.
Morgret, Clarke S.
Morrison, Kelly C.
Munno, Joseph I.
Musick, Matthew R.
Naff, Hunter W.
Newcomb, Christopher D.
Newman, Jesse L.
Ong, Justin A.
O'Regan, Sean R.
Parker, Bradley J.
Pumphrey, Spilman T.
Radi, Matthew D.

Ramirez, Samuel K.
Ramsay, Ross H.
Rathbone, Curtis B.
Rhoades, Zachary G.
Rice, Robert H.
Richardson, Kyle R.
Rivas, James M.
Roberts Jr., David W.
Roberts, Nash E.
Rodriguez, Matthew R.
Satterwhite, Matthew R.
Schaefer, Robert B.
Schenfel, Tice L.
Schroeder, Josef M.
Sellers, Shannon D.
Shihata, Amir H.
Sinkez, Matthew A.
Smith, Andrew K.
Smith, D'Angelo R.
Snuffin, Durham J.
Snyder, Charles D.
Squire, Bingley B.
Stratton, Lucille B.
Talley Jr., Donald A.
Taylor II, Keith L.
Tharp, Jacob S.
Thomas, Matthew S.
Thompson, Joseph L.
Thompson, Sean G.
Thulin, Owen C.
Vanaman III, Walter L.
Vickery, Kelly M.
Walker, Leo A.
Ware, Kristopher S.
Weishaar, Nicholas B.
Whitaker, Walter B.
Wilkinson, Shane L.
Wilkinson, Stewart M.
Willard, Ryan G.
Wilson, Lansing R.
Worley, Gary W.
Wortham, Caroline D.
Wray III, Robert B.

HARD- CHARGI

HOTEL COMPANY

Captain Carter L. Murray

Lieutenant Christina M. Stalnaker

1Lt Alexander Kelley

1Lt Brian Steel

1Lt Mark Turner

1Lt Dan O'Connell

No picture provided.

Christopher Johnston

1st Sgt Simmers

Ops Sgt Barnes

Master Sgt Popko

dams, Christopher Q.
Ahmed, Ahad F.
mmon, Jacob A.
alley, Robert N.
arefoot, Ryan S.
arnes, Jason T.
ates, Nicholas L.
ecker, Adam C.
ell, Willie M.
agini, Tanner B.
lack Jr., Harold D.
lack, Ian M.
lue, Michael A.
lume, Dayton D.
ramat, Benjamin G.
rannen, Jacob D.
righam, Eric S.
ritt III, John G.
rust, Timothy J.
urks Jr., Ronald A.
Burton III, Edward C.
Caldwell Jr., Anderson C.
Calhoun, Jackson C.
Calvin, Emilio
Cate, Dylan G.
Chace Jr., Stephen D.
Church, Eric B.
Clynes, Daniel R.
Colon, Gabriel A.
Compton, Andrew B.
Cook, Jennifer A.
Crounse, London C.
Cutler, Karl W.
Czupryna, Christopher P.
Davis, Thomas J.
Delpech, Laurens M.
DeVerna, Kyle A.
Dominguez, Adrian A.
Doxsee, Jon-Thomas
Duane, Christopher E.
Duvnjak, Boris Z.
Elliott, Matthew S.
Faff, Jonathan B.
Ferrell, Justin T.
Fraser, Christopher C.
Gabriel, Keith B.
Goodale, Kyle G.
Gore, Charles A.
Guthrie, Troy J.
Hairston, Tracy M.
Hairston, Jasmine L.
Hayden Jr., Thomas A.
Healy, Caleb N.
Hill Jr., Lawrence W.
Hindley, Katherine S.
Hodges, Christopher L.
Holmes, Travis W.
Houston, Hunter L.
Huge, Zachary H.
Jackman, Patrick W.
Jamerson Jr., George T.
Johnston, Christopher S.
Kakumu, Ian A.
Kelley, Alexander G.
Keys, Shane H.
King, Riley P.
Knapp IV, Edgar C.
Krähling, John Micheal R.
Kriz, Nicholas M.
Kulat, Jeffrey R.
Landersman, Kilian C.
Lewis, Dwayne A.
Long, Keith W.
Lopez, Adam A.
Manning Jr., John C.
Marston, Matthew K.
McCabe, Ashley R.
McCarron, Gabrielle M.
McClish, Adam J.
McCoy, Sean K.
McIntyre III, George L.
McKinney, Patrick B.

Mello, Stefan T.
Miller, Forrest N.
Milligan, Christopher L.
Morley, Daniel L.
Mosk, Claiborn A.
Mosley III, Dion
Murray, Carter L.
Neumann, Emily R.
Nilles, Brian J.
Nowak, Douglas V.
O'Connell, Daniel J.
O'Donnell, Keith W.
Orndorff III, William R.
Palmer, Matthew D.
Parkman, Lindsey L.
Reed, Jeremy G.
Peterson, Sean M.
Pirlbek, John T.
Popko, Gerald B.
Pratt, Lane G.
Pugh IV, William R.
Purello, Joseph T.
Putnam, Isaac B.
Redmond, Thomas L.
Resetar, Laura G.
Riggs, Casey J.
Rivera, Karter L.
Robertson III, James A.
Rohrback, Andrew J.
Rose, Kyle S.
Safrit, Jonathan S.
Santos, Jonathan D.
Sargent, Stephen A.
Sartori, Reid C.
Schirra, Thomas A.
Shekh, Tauseef N.
Simmers, Joseph M.
Smith, Justin R.
Spain, Zachary A.
Stainaker, Christina L.
Stanco, Trevor V.
Stark, Stefan A.
Steel, Brian T.
Steinhoff Jr., Richard P.
Sterbenz Jr., Christopher A.
Strausbaugh, Daniel A.
Sullivan, Graham D.
Sussman, Chad A.
Symons, Alexander W.
Tagg, John E.
Tharp, Zachary C.
Thompson, Wade P.
Travis, Travis T.
Trent, Mark A.
Turner, Kylie M.
Turner, Mark A.
Vaughn Jr., Michael W.
Von Schuch, Daniel
Wagner Jr., David T.
Waldrop, William B.
White Jr., Michael R.
Whiting Jr., Wayne S.
Willig, Clayton B.
Woitas, Paul J.
Woods, Travis R.
Young, Cody V.
Zwanzig, Coleman A.

BLOOD THIRST

BAND COMPANY

CAPTAIN TAYLOR R. HERRING

LIEUTENANT PETER SARAGNESE

LT IRA GALLAGHER

LT SAMPA LEENHOUTS

LT DANIEL JOHNSON

LT ANDREW BEARD

LT ALEXA TARBONA

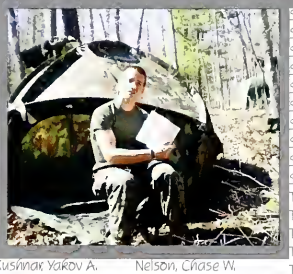
TSM STAUFFER

1ST SGT DIXON

OPS SGT PHILLIPS

MASTER SGT BROWN

Allen III, Robert L.
Anderson, Joshua N.
Applewhite, Joshua A.
Arthur, David R.
Babcock, Matthew S.
Baker, Domonique R.
Bayliss, Brent E.
Beard, Andrew J.
Biggs, Carl J.
Bishop, Terrance W.
Blum, Erik M.
Booth, James M.
Bost III, James T.
Boswell, Jack T.
Bowker Jr, Albert J.
Bradley, Matthew A.
Briski, Jacqueline M.
Brown, Donte D.
Bryant, Anson L.
Burleson, James A.
Butler, Brandon L.
Camper, Ashley E.
Capuozzo, Mario D.
Cauley, Stephen R.
Chenault, Robert R.
Childers, Trevor D.
Cole Jr, Jerry S.
Cole, Robert R.
Coleman, Janna R.
Collie, Jacob S.
Concepcion, Daniel E.
Conley, Bridget A.
Costello, Ian R.
Craig, Andrew P.
Cregar, Aaron J.
Crow, Alexander C.
Dale, Matthew J.
Delo, Scott J.
DeRose, Frederick N.
Dickinson, Matthew T.
Digan, John M.
Dixon, Caleb C.
Donovan, Patrick W.
Doseff, Alexander I.
Drumheller, Kyle E.
Eads, Brian R.
Emery, Daniel W.
Ferguson, Matthew S.
Filla, Corey R.
Fleshman, Joseph M.
Frizzell, William R.
Gallagher, Ira A.
Gianni, Kyle K.
Gibbs, Jeremy L.
Greenlee, Daniel J.
Gregory, Timothy J.
Griffin, Peter F.
Griffith, James G.
Halnon, Rachel E.
Halnon, Sarah J.
Hamlin, Thomas G.
Harper, Matthew D.
Hellenga, Gregory I.
Hendley, Cory J.
Herring, Taylor R.
Hilber, Andrew J.
Hipko, Maxx D.
Hoerst, Joseph D.
Hogan, Austin M.
Hong, Steven S.
Hurley, Kelson G.
Hussmann, Ross W.
Inman, Jacob D.
Janak, Matthew C.
Jeter, Andrew W.
Johnson, Daniel S.
Jones, Logan P.
Kendley, Carolyn N.
Kim, Jae-Min
Kim, Jonathan J.
Kinder, Joshua P.
Knehr, Dylan J.
Kozikowski, Nicole G.



Kushnar, Yakov A.
Lamb, Nelson A.
Lawson, Jared C.
Leach, Christopher M.
Leenhouts, James M.
Lockett, James S.
Louderback, Thomas W.
Lynch Jr, Richard N.
Martin, Bryant J.
Martin, Christopher R.
Mason, Alexander K.
Mawyer, Matthew W.
Mayberry, Christopher B.
McCollough, Michael B.
McCown Jr, David A.
McDonald, Bryan C.
McElligott, Casey T.
McGann, Michael P.
McManus III, Ronald G.
Messick, Mitchell K.
Miraldi, Andrew M.
Nelson, Chase W.
Neubaum, Christian
Nweeia, Kyle A.
Perry, David K.
Phillips, David M.
Pool, Brian T.
Porter Jr, Michael L.
Powell Jr, Frank R.
Preisser, Edmund C.
Purnell, Sean T.
Rau, Christopher J.
Ray, James M.
Reaves, Cierra A.
Remai, Aaron M.
Rister III, Berley L.
Sanchez, Raquel A.
Saragnese, Peter D.
Schaedel, Ryan F.
Schmidt, Ryan S.
Scudder, Benjamin A.
Seidl, Kurt J.
Sexton, Colin A.
Sharp, Richard T.
Shih, Wei-Yu
Shumaker, Kelly H.
Sing, Jennifer J.
Sing, Jennifer J.
Smith, William P.
Starin, Jared E.
Statzell V, George W.
Stauffer, Thomas B.
Tammelin, Justin S.
Taribona, Alexa C.
Tench, Justin R.
Toman, Racheal E.
Tucker, Martin R.
Tucker, Tyler W.
Visconti, Joshua D.
Weber, Jared P.
Wentzel, Patrick A.
White, Barrett C.
White, Samuel G.
Wilcox, Matthew J.
Woloshuk, Adam J.
Wong, Andrew M.
Young, Nicholas A.
Youngsma, Zachary M.
Znachko, Jacob T.

ACADEMICS AT VMI

VMI's Academic Program offers a rigorous curriculum that produces educated and internationally engaged citizens of character. It includes a broad four-year core curriculum and fourteen nationally recognized majors in engineering, science, liberal arts, and social sciences.

The curriculum offers exceptional opportunities for undergraduate research, foreign study, internships, and participation in activities sponsored by the Institute Writing Program. The Institute Honors Program presents special challenges and rewards for VMI's most academically outstanding cadets.

The faculty, 96% of whom hold Ph.D.s, are renowned for teaching excellence, mentorship of students, scholarly engagement and expertise, commitment to service, and encouragement of undergraduate research. Small class sizes enable faculty to interact closely with cadets both inside and outside of the classroom.

Economics and Buisness

Colonel Floyd H. Duncan (Department Head), Major Samuel K. Allen, Major Elizabeth W. Baker, Major James T. Bang, Colonel Atin Basu Choudhary, Colonel H. Francis Bush, Lt. Colonel Barry R. Cobb, Colonel Karen Guthermuth, Colonel Stewart W. Husted, Major Raymond J. MacDermott, Colonel Robert W. Moreschi, Lt. Colonel Tinni B. Sen, Mr. Roscoe B. Stephenson, III, Colonel Clifford T. West Jr., Ms. Linda R. Moreschi.

English and Fine Arts

Colonel Emily P. Miller (Department Head), Lt. Colonel Kurt J. Ayau, Mr. B. Drummond Ayres, Colonel William D. Badgett, Colonel Gordon V. Ball, Colonel S. Alan Baragona, Mrs. Susan B. Coleman-Croushorn, Doctor Michael J. Crowley, Lt. Commander D. Alexis Hart, Colonel John G. Leland, Mrs. Lynne B. McCombs, Colonel Christina McDonald, Colonel Robert L. McDonald, Colonel David A Rachels, Major Jennifer M. Santos, Lt. Colonel Roger C. Thompson, Lt. Colonel Pennie J. Ticen, Mr. Ronald P. Salutsky

History

Colonel Rose Mary Sheldon (Department Head), Ms. Barbara E. Lachman, Lt. Colonel Elena Andreeva, Brigadier General Charles F. Brower IV, Mr. David W. Coffey, Lt. Colonel Timothy C. Dowling, Colonel R. Geoffrey Jensen, Dr. Clifford A Kiracofe, Colonel A. Cash Koeniger, Colonel Kenneth E. Koons, Colonel N. Turk McClesky, Colonel Malcolm Muir Jr., Major Eric W. Osbourne, Mr. Adam Trusner, Captain Blair P. Turner, Colonel Bruce Vandervort, Colonel Mark F. Wilkinson.

International Studies & Political Science

Colonel James J. Hentz, Mr. Louis H. Blair, Colonel R. E. Burnett, Major Dennis M. Foster, Colonel Richard J. Kilroy, Major Howard B. Sanborn IV, Mr. E. Douglas Ayer Jr., Mr. Scott E. Belliveau, Doctor Patrick M. Mayerchak, Mr. Christopher B. Russell, Captain Blair P. Turner

The Modern Languages and Cultures Department refused to have its picture taken for The Bomb. The Bomb Staff apologizes for this disappointment.

Modern Languages and Cultures

Psychology and Philosophy

Colonel James T. Gire (Department Head), Colonel Herbert F. Barber, Major Dave I. Cotting, Major Scott T. Frein, Lt. Colonel Keith A. Kline, Colonel Thomas N. Meriwether, Doctor Duncan J. Richter, Major Glenn R. Sullivan, Doctor C. Kirby Arinder, Colonel James M. Eicher.

Biology

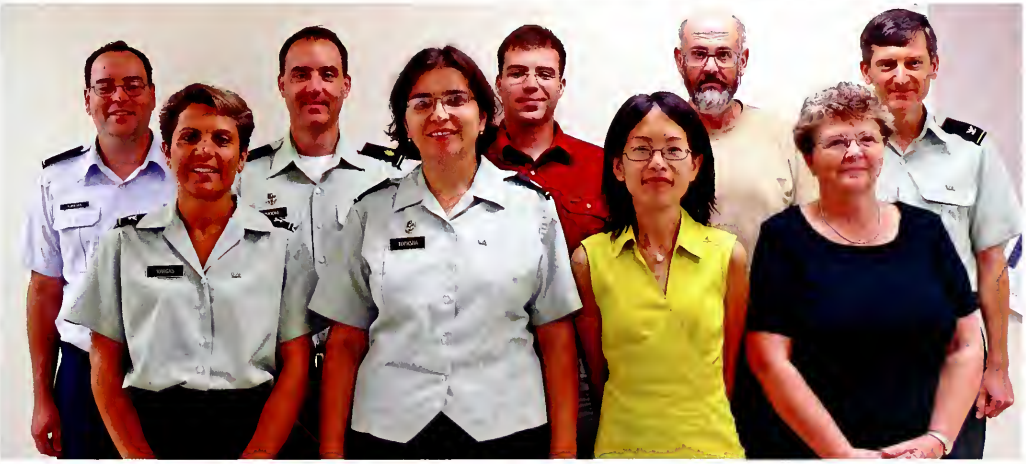
Colonel Richard A. Rowe (Department Head), Major Anne B. Alerding, Colonel Thomas S. Baur '75, Colonel Wade E. Bell, Major Paul R. Moosman Jr. '98, Major Leah R. Stands, Colonel James E. Turner '65, Ms. Joyce K. Blandino, Ms. Eileen T. Hinks, Mrs. Deanne L. Moosman, Mrs. Karen Fredenburg.

Chemistry

Colonel Robert E. Ludt (Department Head), Lt. Colonel Judith B. Cain, Ms. Eileen T. Hinks, Colonel Tappey H. Jones, Major Daniel F. McCain, Colonel Daniel Y. Pharr, Doctor Dale R. Raymond, Colonel Henry D. Schreiber, Mrs. Donna M. Smith, Lt. Colonel Stanton Q. Smith, Lt. Colonel Daren J. Timmons, Colonel James E. Turner

Mathematics and Computer Science

Lt. Colonel Troy J. Siemers (Department Head), Colonel Mac Baker, Colonel Lee S. Dewald Sr., Colonel Myke H. Gluck, Lt. Colonel Gregory N. Hartman, Commander Daniel S. Joseph, Major Leah Lanz,Colonel Thomas C. Lominac, Major Meagan C. Herald, Mr. Richard S. Miller, Mr. Richard S. Miller, Colonel Soe Than, Colonel Michael J. Tierney, Colonel Vonda K. Walsh, Colonel William B. Walsh, Mr. John V. Mirabella, Ms. L. Jane Randall, Mr. John Vosburgh.



Physics & Astronomy

Colonel John R. Thompson (Department Head), Mr. David M. Allen, Major George M. Brooke IV, Lt. Colonel Daniela Topasna, Lt. Colonel Gregory A. Topasna, Colonel Stacia K. Vargas, Doctor Chi-Chin Wu.

Civil & Environmental Engineering

Colonel R. Wane Schneiter, Lt. Colonel Charles B. Bott, Colonel Peter W. Hoadley, Colonel W. Grigg Mullen, Major Charles D. Newhouse, Colonel John H. Page, Captain John E. Riester Jr., Colonel Gary K. Rogers, Secretary Carol Entsminger,

Electrical & Computer Engineering

Colonel J. Shawn Addington (Department Head), Colonel Daniel W. Barr, Colonel David L. Livingston, Colonel D. Todd Smith, Colonel James C. Squire

Mechanical Engineering

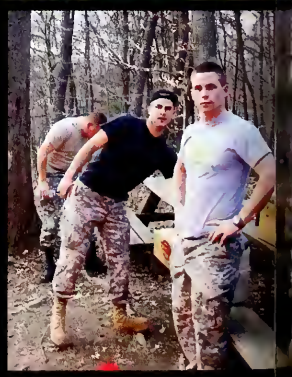
Colonel Timothy M. Hodges (Department Head), Colonel J. Howard Arthur, Doctor Robert L. Beran, Ms. Joyce K. Blandino, Colonel Joseph Blandino, Lt. Colonel Jon-Michael Hardin, Lt. Colonel Matthew R. Hyre, Captain Robert L. McMasters, Colonel W. Wayne Neel, Colonel Woodson A. Sadler, Lt. Colonel Gerald A. Sullivan.

Physical Education

Colonel James A. Coale (Department Head), Captain Stephen T. Baur, Mr. Thomas Calomeris, Major Jack B. Johnson Jr., Captain Chad A. Joyce, Colonel Holly J. Richardson, Captain Monte R. Sparkmen, Mr. James H. Whitten

AIR FORCE

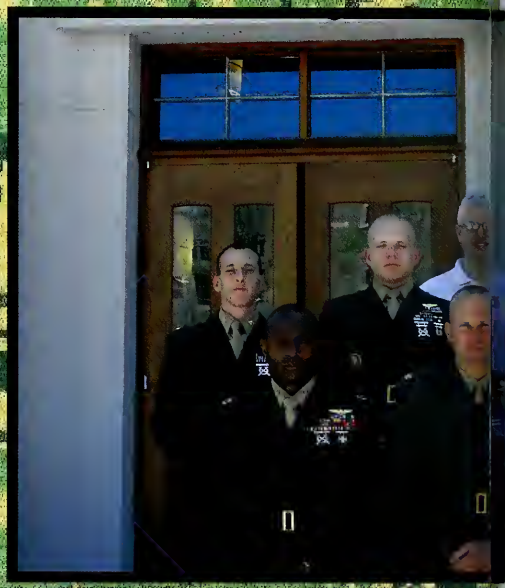
Colonel Steven L. Amato, Captain Steven J. Bolster, First Lt. Jose L. Crespo, Captain Noah W. Diehl, Major Stephani D. Hunsinger, Major Randy B. Maraj, Major Raymond W. Marsh, Captain Sabrina L. Sparkman



ARMY

Colonel Harold H. Worrell, Mr. Sikiru Afisy, Msgt. Roger Ammons, Msgt. Travis H. Bean, Major Robert J. Cook, Major Eric R. East, Major Jim Kilbourne, Major Scott E. Loria, Major David C. Martin, Msgt. Shawn Rost, Ssg. Bradley B. Seay, Major Sherri L. Sharpe, Captain, James G. Sheldon, Ms. Jackie Simmons, Mr. Shawn R. Simmons, Msgt. Phong H. Tran, Msgt. Timothy Travis, Mr. Thomas Atkinson, Mr. Larry Campbell, Ms. Elizabth Dunlap, Ms. Kristy Funkhouser, Ms. Kathy Ruffin

MARINES



Pictured: CPT Craig, COL Hough, CDR Martin, LT Mecklenburg, MAJ Diorio, Gunnery Sergeant Driver, LT Achimasi, Senior Chief Johnson, Mr. Schemehorn, and Mr. Funk

NAVY

Miller Academic Center

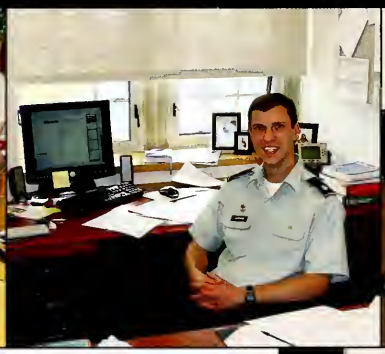
Lt. Colonel Mollie Messimer, Lt. Colonel Anna Crockett, Major Teri Beasley, Mrs. Monica Duke

Preston Library Staff

Colonel Don Samdahl, Ms. Brianna Page, Lt. Colonel Susie Hastings, Doctor Megan Newman, Ms. Gwen Sichol, Ms. Tonya Moore, Colonel Diane Jacob, Ms. Mary L. Kludy, Ms. Cathy Wells, Lt. Colonel Janet Holly, Captain Nilya Carrato, Ms. Linda Covington, Ms. Nancy Kirby, Ms. Virginia Smith (Also pictured - Colonel Hess)

The VMI Museum Staff

Staff include: Mrs. Barbara Blakey, Mrs. Betty Skillman, Mrs. Linda Knick, Mr. John Schoultz, Mr. Keith Gibson, Mr. Wai Than, Mrs. Betty Davis, Mrs. Rosalie Kay, Mrs. Mary Danks, Cadet Andrew Breer



2009 Committees

The hallmark of a VMI education is that it is operated and enforced by cadets. The VMI committees include the Honor Court, Officers of the Guard Association, Rat Disciplinary Committee, Cadet Equity Association, and the Cadet Counseling Services.

2009 Honor Court

Mervin L. Barrow - President

Alexander G. Kelley
Vice President

Nathaniel C. Warner
Vice President for Education & Defense

Robert T. Blackman
Vice President for Investigation

Andrew M. Hosey
Prosecutor

Carter L. Murray
Prosecuter

Second Class Representatives - Assistant Prosecutors

Charles E. Allgood, Charles C. Crowder, John M. Curtis, William R. Feldman, Richard M. Hozik, Weston D. Whitcomb

The 2008-2009 Honor Court of the Virginia Military Institute is composed of six first classmen and six second classmen. These twelve cadets bear the responsibility of guarding the most precious aspect of VMI, the Honor Code. The Court is responsible for not only educating the Corps, but also investigating honor violations and adjudicating Honor Court trials. All members have been voted into their positions, and entrusted by their peers to uphold the standard of honor that generations of VMI cadets have lived by since the school's beginning.

Written by Cadet Mervin Barrow
President of the Honor Court

Officers of the Guard Association

Nicholas M. Campbell - President

Douglas C. Trask
Vice President

Justin R. Smith
Secretary

David A. Ferreira
Defense Counsel

Christopher A. Sterbenz
Defense Counsel

Thomas Duncan
Alpha Rep

Stephanie Ortiz
Bravo Rep

Adam Grabill
Charlie Rep

Benjamin Kyler
Delta Rep

Evan Berenholtz
Echo Rep

Gregory Hersh
Foxtrot Rep

Gary Worley
Golf Rep

Michael Vaughn
Hotel Rep

Thomas B. Stauffer
Band Rep

The Officer of the Guard Association is made up of fourteen first class privates. The OGA enforces Institute regulations regarding misconduct, alcohol misuse, hazing, and any other offense deemed necessary by the General Committee or the Commandant's Staff. Also, the OGA represents the privates of the Corps, by voicing their concerns to the GC and Commandant's Staff. The OGA can be summed up as an organization that represents the average Cadet, and protects Cadets, while upholding the standards of the Corps.

Written by Cadet Nicholas Campbell
President of the Officer of The Guard Association

Rat Disciplinary Committee

Richard H. Newkirk - President

Jamie B. Fernandes — **Vice President**

Hamiliton H. Harris — **Secretary**

Jarrett L. Bennett — **Operations Officer**

First Class Representatives

Remington D. Adams, James B. Bradshaw, Alexander L. Doseff, Dennis M. Dunaway, Frank L. Ellis, Matthew L. Gift, Joshua M. Gerardo, Patrick B. McKinney, Andrew M. Miraldi, Nicholas R. Mims, Christina R. Mowatt- Larssen, David R. Radke, Andrew J. Rohrback, Keith L. Taylor, Mark A. Turner, Andrew D. Washbish, Clayton B. Willig, Albert C. Young

Second Class Representatives

Michael B. Hutchings, David A. Padgett, Daniel P. Perestock, John T. Piribek

The Rat Disciplinary Committee of 2008- 2009 was composed of twenty two First-Class members, nominated by their classmates, as well as four Second-Class members who had been appointed by their class. The members are responsible for transforming the Rats into a class. This year's RDC has been called by many "the most influential" in decades, and is responsible for conducting a Breakout never seen before in the history of VMI.

Written by Cadet Richard Newkirk
President of the Rat Disciplinary Committee

Cadet Equity Association

Jacqueline M. Briski - President

Rammy G. Barbari — **Vice President**

Kevin P. Finger — **Vice President**

Christina L. Stalnaker — **Vice President**

Assistant Investigators

Tanner H. Sewell, Caleb C. Dixon, Michael T. Sunbeck, Jr.

Company Representatives

Charles M. Barnett, Dana J. Hlavaty, Michael A. Robertson, Jr., Ian M. Williams, David C. Downing, Alexander J. Harms, Niels A. Madsen, Laurens M. Delpeck, Jonathan J. Kim, Holly A. Giacolone

Clerk

Jessica M. Rende

The purpose of the Cadet Equity Association, a sub-committee of the General Committee, is to provide education on equity to the Corps of Cadets in accordance with the guidelines established by the Superintendent's Statement on Equity at VMI and to monitor a Post-wide climate of respect and equitable treatment for Cadets. The CEA is tasked with training the Corps and conducting investigations in situations related to gender, racial, religious, ethnic, and other types of discrimination. The Virginia Military Institute is committed to an atmosphere of human dignity in which our basic organizational culture and climate is founded on mutual respect.

Written by Cadet Jackie M. Briski
President of the Cadet Equity Association

Cadet Counseling Services

Dan O'Connell- CIC, Riley Wirth- ACIC
Rob Allen, DQ Baker, Dan Bogert
Jacob Cox, Rick Frantz, Chris Martin
Michael Montoya, Isaac Putnam, Mike Schroeder
Ray Starsman, Justin Tench, Kelly Vickery

This has been a successful year for the Cadet Counseling Staff. We truly made great strides beyond last year's strong finish. We were lucky enough to have a committed group of peer counselors who worked hard throughout the year. After a week-long training session in peer education and counseling, we hit the ground running in support of this year's ratline. With everyone's help, we were able to assist those who sought guidance. This year, VMI had our highest rat retention rate ever.

After matriculation, we were able to focus on health and wellness education for the entire corps. Some notable events that took place this year were the National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, the Great American Smokeout, and VMI's own Stress Busters: an event held each semester before finals, which gives everyone some time to relax and have fun. This event was especially successful due to the generosity of our local churches. Their support and donations were crucial to the execution of this event.

For the second year in a row, we held the Tobacco Quit Challenge, which is a 30-day program to encourage cadets to cease any and all tobacco use. This continues to be the most requested program that CCS offers. Each year we have seen cadets dedicate themselves to the program and emerge tobacco-free. The entire corps gets involved in the process and, without everyone's collective enthusiasm this program probably would not be nearly as great of a success.

As the departing CIC of CCS, I would like to express my gratitude to those of you who entrusted CCS with your needs. I would also like to thank my devoted staff of the 2008-2009 academic year for your excellent work and dedication. My wish is for next year's Cadet Counseling Staff to build on the successes of this year, just as we did from years previous. Good luck to everyone in each of your endeavors, and please remember that there is always someone there to help you in times of need

Written by Cadet Daniel O'Connell
CCS CIC 2008-2009

VMI Clubs

Timber Framers Club

Starin JE, Pendelton CE, White SG, Statzell GW, Ellison CG, VonSchuch D, Krysiak RC, Wild WJ, Drakic AN, Duvnjak BZ, Hayden TA, Manning JC

Big Brother Big Sister

Morton JD, Kari AK, Gomez A, Krumm AM, Beach CD, Blume DA, Duncan TD

Timmons-Gentry-Music Society

Winks MD, Cox KM, Bailey CM, Tosetti CP, Lawson JC, Baker HM, Lockett JS, Crow AC, Tighe KA, Tarbona AC

Theater Club

Alexander JT, Baker DR, Cortes C, Edwards TA, Glomb MJ, Hanson SL, Hlavaty DJ, Kim JJ, Lippiatt GE, Martin BJ, Nash SH, Saragnese PD, Saunders TM, Staab DJ, Wiezorek JA, Cook JA, Cox KM, Dobbins EC, Franchella MN, Hussmann RW, Lawson JC, Neumann ER, Prei sser EC, Ahmed AF, Bishop TW, Mayberry CB, O'Brien JA, Reaves CA, Sexton CA, Shumaker KH, Tierney SR, Twigg JE

Lexington Fire Department

Bohanan S, Talbott M, Wasson F, Gottwald T

Prelaw Society

Vickery KM, Marino P, Duncan TA, Secrest TR, Kimsey BF, Luxhoj KB, Nardine RS, Roberts NE, Davis SF, Kwon T, Wright JW, Crowder CC, Graham MW, Finger KP, Lockett JS, Sussman CA, Abruzzese VW, Brush AC, Barbari AG, Hebb ND, Davis TJ, Conte C, Reedy TS, Fede JH, McMullen RP, Gray SL, Ferreira DA, Rice CA, Bailey CM, Crandall PD, Leichty LB, Ferro JS, Childers TO, Gyamfuaa C

Civil War Roundtable

Barnes JR, Holt BG, Scudder BA, Adams DC, McCormick RG, Abruzzese VW, Hussman RW, Hunt AL, Seidl KJ, Milligram DM, Waldrop WB, Smith WP, Stronko DJ, Rice RH, Rivas JM, Cregar AJ, Tighe KA, Gerkin CD, White SG, Ayres SE, Ecklund JH, Graziano TM, Young AC, Dwight JT, Johnson JR, Krysiak RC, Perry S, Ewen R, Vaden DB, Newcomb CD, Wood JA, Gillogly WN, Leuthold BT, Palmer MD, Hayes KP, Carter BA, Kwon T, Miller FN

Psychology Club

Stolle GM, Betts EL, Price SD, Lloyd ST, Kimsey BF, Krysiak RC, Roberts NE, Briski JM, Larramore KS, McLachlan SK, Bishop TW, Snevely K, Ortiz S

Virginia Historical Soiety

Lamb NA, Morgan JD, Raine RC, Holt BG, Wright MT, Inman JD, Ayres SE, Earle RT, Ewen R, Krysiak RC, Cox DS, Gelles NC, Tellez J

Special Actions Detachment

Lin C, Olson BJ, Page TN, Hendee JN

Quad A

Lloyd SJ, Gerkin CD, Do VQ, Skiff BJ, Green TJ, Sergent SA, Klajnbart JM, Price ER, Thompson C, Neumann ER, Long MA, Allard BH, Burnshire KM, Gordon TA, Stevenson JJ, Lee RE, Whitehead WA, Varney JR

Big Red Club

Simpson BJ, Blackman RT, Hyatt WM, Krumm AM, Duncan TA, Harvey JM, Shirkey JJ, Pillow PS, Stalnaker CL

College Republicans

Stolle GM, Denton BD, Palmer MD, Beasley HT, Hargrove RS, Healy CN, Gelles NC, Buell RS, Fiorelli MJ, Colon J, Rvark SP, Secrest TR, Richardson KR, Alerding JE, Cox DJ, Krysiak RC, Lum GS, Relyea BW, Ramierez SK, Stolle RS, Gianni KK, Leuthold BT, Statzell GW, Greenlee DJ, Tellez J, Huffman MS, Johnson SM, Mosk CA, Bishop TW, Berenholz ES, Miller AW, Crowder CC, Desch DJ, Young RP, Waldman CR, Neal DG, Hooker JK, Wilson JKJ

German Club

Range CA, Jurkowitsch FW, Stronko DJ, Milligram DM, Lum GS, Remai AH, Briski JM, Daly JE, Spain ZA, Jones MR, Madsen NA, Anglin NR, Palmer MD, Seidl KJ, Ray JM, Gelles NC, Schirra TA, Harris HH

English Society

Lippiatt GE, Miller JE, Cook JA, Duncan TA, Steward NA, Statzell GW, Tellez J, Gwinn MT, King RP, Secrest TR, Lincoln CP, Pastor AT

College Bowl

Lippiatt GE, Stauffer T, Maurice J, Fendley B, Davis T

Philosophy Club

Antonelli ML, Barnhill H, Choudhary Basu, Nold TR, Bishop JA, Cauley SR, Chapman JB, Cox JT, Edwards TA, Ellsworth R, Fendley RL, Fernandes JB, Ferreira DA, Fields CS, Gomez A, Harley WE, Johnson ML, Jokiel PA, Keller AC, Leer E, Lippiatt GE, Liu S, Marsh JR, Maternick MR, Mccabe AR

Cheerleading

Daniel JA, Reaves CA, Arenas AF, Noble KM, Strand ME, Baker AJ, Kittrell JL, Gianni KK, Shumaker KH, Parkman L, Coate MM

Equestrian

Baker HM, Secrest TR, Suroweic EA, Harris BA, Lukenbill ME

Glee Club

Giacolone HA, Arenas AF, Baker DR, Chang S, Childers TO, Dickinson MT, Halnon RE, Halnon SJ, Harris AM, Johnson DS, Jones S, Kwon T, Lee RE, Martin CR, Mosk CA, Preisser EC, Shumaker KH, Spahr RG, Wermus DM, Whitten SV, Daniel Thornton

Sounding Brass

Resetar, Lippiatt, Cook, Jackson

The Cadet Newspaper

The BOMB

Kosecki CM, Rosarda TA, Rice CA, Toman RE, Graham MW, Kim JJ, Jurkowitsch FD, Conte C, Brannen JD

Clubs not pictured:

College Democrats
Jazz Band
Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Pipe and Drum Band

Publications Board 2008-2009

MESS HALL LINES

Dreading SRC because getting a plate of food takes thirty minutes

FIRST CLASS PARKING

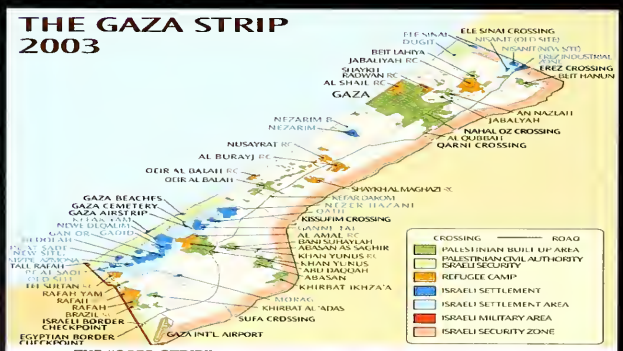
Just use the people who park on Rt. 11... the walk to your car is only 191 steps

NAME AND INITIALS

Getting boned for doing stupid things like being improperly dressed outside of your room.

FIRST CLASS YEAR

SOME CANDIDS ALONG THE WAY... IN CASE YOU FORGET.

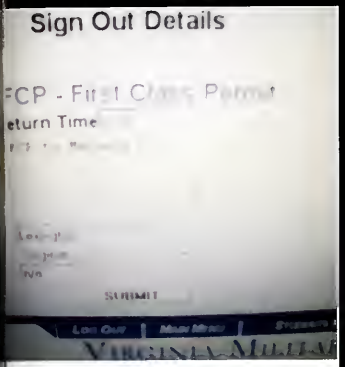


THE "GAZA STRIP"

When they closed down new barracks, they left a "strip of rooms on the front side of barracks open to cadets. These poor cadets heard every nail pounding as construction was done each day right outside their room. So much for a nap!

SUNDAY BRUNCH

What sunday brunch? It's all left overs!

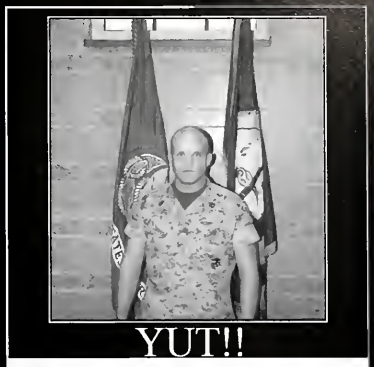


FIRST CLASS PERMIT

Food sound bad in the mess hall... just sign out FCP and stay out til 2030 hrs... Its not like you're going to get any work done anyway.

0130 CURFEW

You mean I can't go to the bathroom after 1:30am or take a shower? Are you serious?



ROOM INSPECTIONS

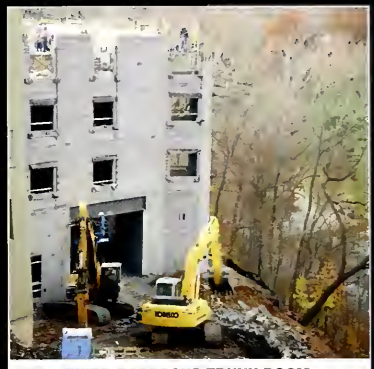
Most of the time they aren't so bad... unless you have GySgt. Driver. Watch out!

TAPS

The sound of barracks going to sleep... and cadets staying up late to study... or play video games.

SPRING FTX

5 miserable days in the woods... well for most at least. "I'd rather be at VMI."



THIRD BARRACKS TRUNK ROOM

Yeah.. enough said.

"THIS IS NOT A JOKE!"

Barracks caught on fire during our study hours so they evacuated the entire thing!

EASTER FURLOUGH

What Easter Furlough? Kill Bunnies!

Club Sports

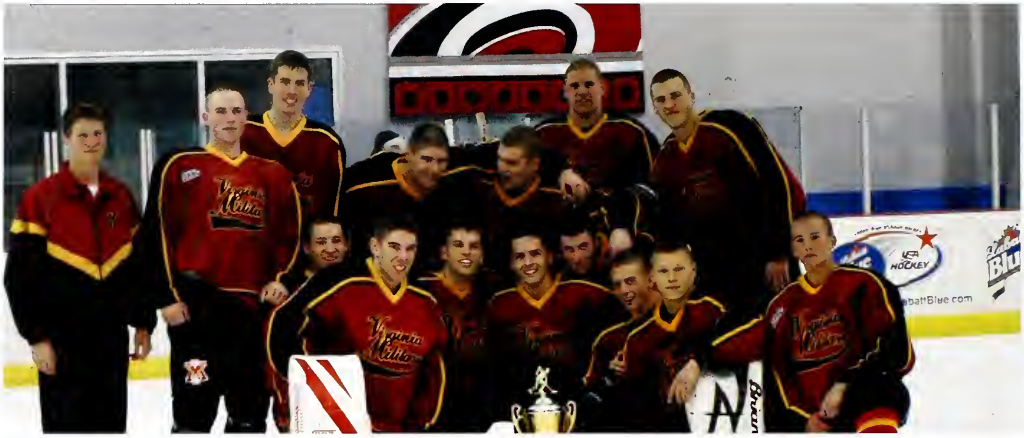
Ultimate Frisbee

Holt BG, Baker CA, Bradley MA, Daly JE, Johnson DS, Lamb NA, Thompson JL, Bopp BM, Cvengros BD, Franchella MN, Musick MR, Preisser EC, Turner JR, Wade AM, Hall CH, Gingrich CJ, Michnewich DA, Boyce ZD, Comtosis CJ, Doxsee J, Dudek ST, Fiorelli MJ, Firehammer AR, Flading E, Graziano TM, Healy CA, Holliday RE, Hooker JK, Loring WB, Markley SH, Naraine RS, Robertson GM, Schade RP, Schaedel RF, Turner KM, White SA, Wood JA

Club Soccer

Winks MD, Kerr JT, Custer CR, Fiasconaro GF, Dietrich C, Nguyen DV, Leugers PW, Bocanegra KM, Bailey CM, Splinter JM, Hickey JL, Clementson LA, Park WE

Club Hockey



Aldoost AM, Arthur DR, Cowdry AM, Fields TW, Gliebe ME, Hale RA, Hoerst JD, Horgan AR, Mendillo CJ, Miraldi AM, Parmer MR, Saragnese PD, Smith JR, Wittig EE, Spain ZA

Club Golf

Col. Rivers, Clark RJ, Jurkowitsch FW , Thompson DE, Hodsden BL, Snuffin DJ, Lloyd SJ, Phillips RO, Glass DM, Hariss HH, Blume DD, Worley GW, Duncan TA, O'Connell DJ, Sneavely KM, Deacon MT, Capt Sheldon

Club Basketball

Harvey JM (CIC), Black IM, Cashen CW, Chen C, Choi S, Compton AB, Cox JT, Faulconer A, Gibbons GE, Gibbs JL, Hentges JB, Hsieh HM, Keller AC, Kerr SM, Kriz N, O'Reilly DL, Smith BA, Stark S, Toomey JK, Yen H

Softball Club

Tarbona AC, Rhinelander JM, Toman RE, Vickery KM, Pastor AT, Halnon SJ, DeFrank AM, Parkman LL, Stratton LB, Chang SN, Coate MM, Harris BA

Martial Arts

Wermus DM, Miller AW, Halnon RE, Baik S, Scudder BA

Mixed Martial Arts

Francis K, Dixon JR, Dixon C, Grabil A, Moser CD, Ferreira DA, Johnston CS, Squire BB, Horbal J, Bartol JW, Sexton CA, Peeler BA, Goldsmith N, Eagle NV, Bishop TW

Rugby

Aguirre EJ, Bacheller BP, Beard AJ, Brister JE, Brown ND, Calhoun JC, Chapman TC, Connolly BC, Correll WR, Costello IT, Dacunha GE, Doseff AI, Englehart MJ, Garrett DR, Gleason BL, Haines AC, Hingley DM, Hurley KG, Johnson MD, Klajnbart JM, Knight CJ, Lippiat GE, Madsen NA, McFather FS, Mello ST, Naff HW, Pratt LG, Rhoades ZG, Rodgers HL, Ross CJ, Sturgill JR, Tammelin JS, Tharp ZC, Wasson MF, Watts AD, Winoker JN, Wirth PR, Woods TR, Messina DC

Boxing Club

Brinkman JT, Czupryna CP, Davis TJ, Felts BW, Gianni KK, Hefner JN, Henry SR, Herzog AP, Keese JM, Nichols SC, Santos JO, Splettstoesser LF , Thomas MS, Walker LA, Zwanzig CA

Strength Club

Allard BH, Ashooh BJ, Baez AM, Bookwalter JC, Brockman DM, Clayton JP, Davis TJ, Defrank AM, Fukui CN, Gerardo JM, Gibson NJ, Hafkemeyer JL, Harrelson NJ, Jones MA, Kirchner RT, Kittrell JL, McFather FS, Parsons CW, Radi MD, Swanson LK, Treacy MP, Trotman OT, Wright MT, Wu LH

Alpine Ski Club

Farley EA, Oliver AF, Brinkman JT, Williams DP, Pelletier KC, Fiorelli MJ, Peterson SM, Relyea BW

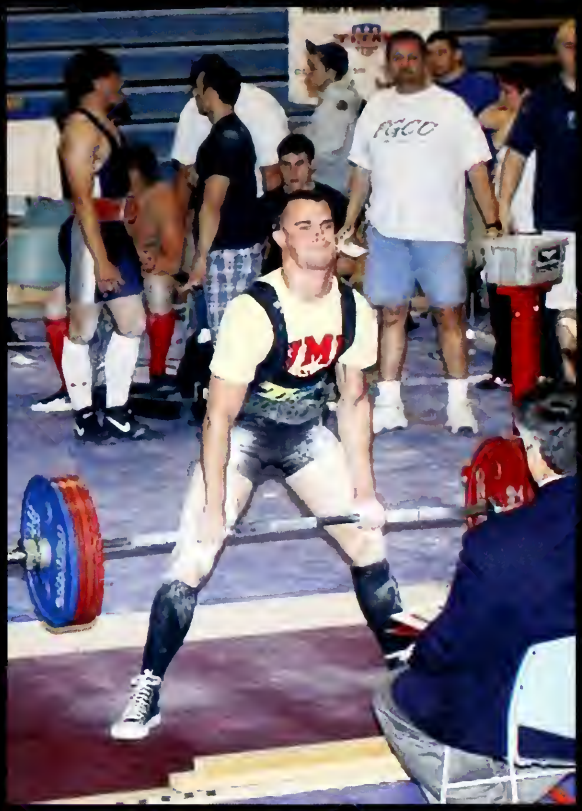
Marathon Club

Brewer DC, Worley GW, Peterson SM, Saunders JM, Schroeder JM, Stewart, NA, Brown JC, McManus RG, Griffith BA, Eggleston PO, Bishop TW, Gallagher IA, McFarland NA, Straskulic RA, Louderback TW, Harms AJ, Stumpf JC, MillsGA, Tyson ES, McCormick RH, Wilson LR, Dobbins SS, Ahmed AF, Leccadito MT

Trap and Skeet Club

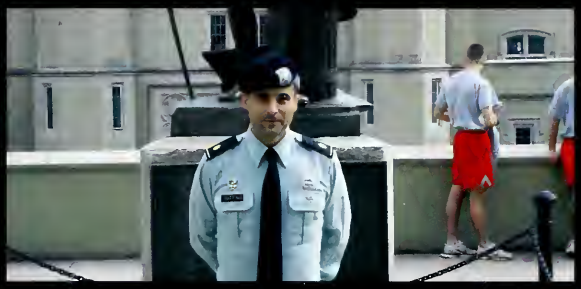
Blackman RT, Carter BA, Delpech LM, Ford JC, Green KS, Hayden TA, Murray CL, Schlaseman DG, Vaughn MW, Girod JA

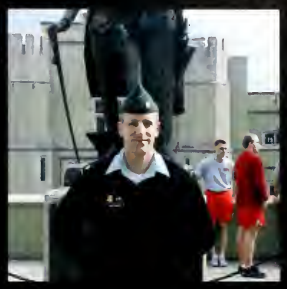
Power Lifting



ICE HOCKEY

TRIATHALON





NCAA Sports

VMI SPIRIT: Red, White, and Yellow Floats on High... The Institute Shall Never

Winning Seasons

Track & Field: FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE JOINING THE BIG SOUTH, THE VMI MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD TEAM EARNED AN OVERALL RUNNER-UP FINISH IN A CONFERENCE OUTDOOR CHAMPIONSHIP, AS THE 2009 NEW BALANCE BIG SOUTH OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS CONCLUDED SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH, AT CUPP STADIUM IN RADFORD, VA.

Basketball: VMI TWIN BROTHER STANDOUTS CHAVIS AND TRAVIS HOLMES WERE BOTH NAMED TO THE 2009 ALL-BIG SOUTH CONFERENCE POST-SEASON SQUADS, AS ANNOUNCED MONDAY, MARCH 2ND BY THE LEAGUE OFFICE.

Women's Soccer: THE VMI WOMEN'S SOCCER PROGRAM NOTCHED A HISTORIC ONE ON THURSDAY NOVEMBER 2ND, SCORING THEIR FIRST-EVER WIN IN A BIG SOUTH CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP BY DEFEATING WINTHROP 2-1 AT THE VERT TRACK & SOCCER FIELD.

Die...So Now Keydets with One Voice Cry... God Bless our Team, and VMI

LIGHTENING STRIKES AGAIN

VMI BASEBALL HAS A SUCCESSFUL SEASON.

A RECAP: Sluggers and Smink Send VMI Past Gardner-Webb, 21-3 on April 10th, 2009 at Virginia Military Institute.

Scorecard

Fri, Feb 20	North Carolina
Sat, Feb 21	North Carolina
Sun, Feb 22	North Carolina
Tue, Feb 24	Old Dominion
Wed, Feb 25	Richmond
Fri, Feb 27	Yngstwn St
Sat, Feb 28	Yngstwn St
Sun, Mar 01	Bucknell
Wed, Mar 04	William & Mary
Fri, Mar 06	Rider
Sat, Mar 07	Rider
Sat, Mar 07	Rider
Sun, Mar 08	Rider
Tue, Mar 10	Norfolk State
Wed, Mar 11	Virginia
Sat, Mar 14	Presbyterian
Sun, Mar 15	Presbyterian
Sun, Mar 15	Presbyterian
Tue, Mar 17	Virginia Tech
Wed, Mar 18	Virginia Tech
Fri, Mar 20	UNC Asheville
Sat, Mar 21	UNC Asheville
Sun, Mar 22	UNC Asheville
Tue, Mar 24	Richmond
Fri, Mar 27	Charleston Southern
Sun, Mar 29	Charleston Southern
Fri, Apr 03	Liberty
Sat, Apr 04	Liberty
Sun, Apr 05	Liberty
Wed, Apr 08	VCU
Sat, Apr 11	Gardner-Webb
Sat, Apr 11	Gardner-Webb
Tue, Apr 14	James Madison
Wed, Apr 15	Longwood
Fri, Apr 17	Radford
Sat, Apr 18	Radford
Sun, Apr 19	Radford
Tue, Apr 21	Old Dominion
Wed, Apr 22	Norfolk State
Fri, Apr 24	Winthrop
Sat, Apr 25	Winthrop
Sun, Apr 26	Winthrop
Tue, Apr 28	William & Mary
Wed, Apr 29	James Madison
Sat, May 09	Coastal Carolina
Sun, May 10	Coastal Carolina
Mon, May 11	Coastal Carolina
Thu, May 14	High Point
Fri, May 15	High Point
Sat, May 16	High Point

VMI slugged a school-record seven home runs while starting pitcher Travis Smink allowed just one run through seven innings as the Keydets defeated Gardner-Webb, 21-3, in Big South action on Friday, April 10th at Gray-Minor Stadium.

Sophomore Alex Haitsuka and junior Tanner Biagini each hit two home runs for the Keydets (13-18, 7-5 Big South), who collected season highs in runs (21), hits (25) and RBI (20). VMI scored in all but one inning in the victory, being held scoreless by starter Aaron Haynes (1-2) in the third inning. Haynes took the loss for the Bulldogs (15-14, 4-6 Big South), however, surrendering 13 runs on 15 hits through 3.2 innings.

Smink (5-2), meanwhile, allowed just a fifth-inning, solo home run to Matt Rizzuto in improving to 4-0 in five conference starts this season. The left-hander struck out five, and with the victory, moved into a tie for fourth on VMI's career wins chart with 14. "I thought that our offensive approaches were great early," said VMI head coach Marlin Ikenberry, whose team ran out to a 10-0 advantage in the second inning. "I was proud of how we played and competed during that game, especially the guys coming off the bench. Travis Smink, once again, did an outstanding job that night for us."

Marlin Ikenberry
VMI Baseball's Head Coach
VMI Class of 1995

The Bulldogs could not capitalize off of a pair of hits in the first inning, before the Keydets went to work offensively. Biagini's three-run home run gave VMI the lead for good.

VMI Baseball

DEFENSE!

VMI earned the #2 seed in this year's Big South Championship, the best seed the Keydets have earned since joining the Big South Conference.

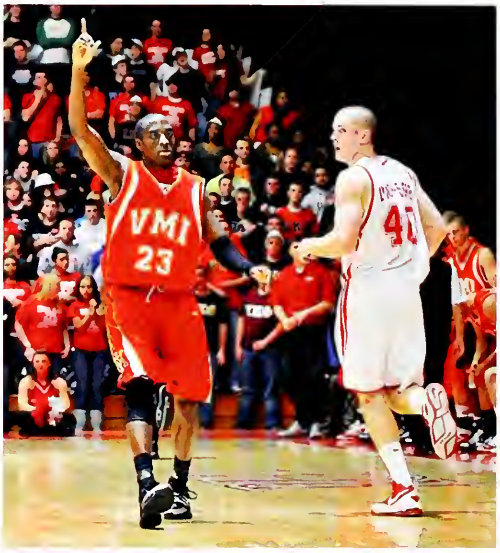
The team's #2 seed is also the best positioning that VMI has had in a league-wide (non-divisional) tournament since the 1977-78 season. (VMI was the North division's #2 seed in the Southern Conference Tournament in 1995-96). Interestingly, that 1977-78 tournament was also the last time that a postseason game was played at VMI, when the Keydets defeated seventh-seeded Davidson 95-80 at "The Pit."

Historically, #2 seeds have not fared all that well in Big South Championship Finals. All-time, second seeds are 6-8 in the Championship Games, including a 45 mark against #1 seeds. The record improves of late, however, with #2 seeds going 43 over the past 10 years in Finals, including a 66-48 win by #2 Winthrop over #1 UNC Asheville last season.

Virginia Military Institute head basketball coach Duggar Baucom was recently named the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) 2009 District 3 Coach of the Year.

SOME STATISTICS ABOUT THE TEAM...

- VMI senior guards Chavis and Travis Holmes were both named to the Richmond Times-Dispatch's All-State Second Team.
- VMI ranked first in the country in scoring (93.8), 3-point FG made (13.8), steals (14.2), turnover Margin (+9.5).
- Baucom led the Keydets in 2008 to a 24-8 record, the second most wins in school history and most wins in the program's history.
- The Holmes Twins, Chavis and Travis were named "All Conference Honors" this season, their last season competing for Virginia Military Institute.



Basketball Schedule 2008-2009

Fri, Nov 14 Kentucky
Sun, Nov 16 Virginia
Tue, Nov 18 MA Bible
Thu, Nov 20 Stevenson
Mon, Nov 24 Campbell
Sat, Nov 29 Jksnville St
Wed, Dec 03 Winthrop
Sat, Dec 06 UNC Ashville
Tue, Dec 09 Campbell
Sat, Dec 13 S. Wesleyan
Sun, Dec 21 Army
Wed, Dec 31 Richmond
Sat, Jan 3 Gardner-Webb
Mon, Jan 5 Chalstn Sthrn
Sat, Jan 10 Coastal C
Mon, Jan 12 Presbyterian
Sat, Jan 17 Liberty
Wed, Jan 21 Radford
Sat, Jan 24 High Point
Thu, Jan 29 S. VA
Mon, Feb 02 UNC Ashville
Wed, Feb 04 Winthrop
Sat, Feb 07 Gardnr-Webb
Mon, Feb 09 Chrlstn Sthrn
Sat, Feb 14 Coastal C
Mon, Feb 16 Presbyterian
Tue, Feb 24 Liberty
Sat, Feb 28 High Point
Tue, Mar 03 #7 Coastal C
Thu, Mar 05 #3 Liberty
Sat, Mar 07 #1 Radford

YOU'RE LAST.

A Recap from the Paul Short Run in October 2008.

Sophomore Ermin Mujezinovic and senior Donnie Cowart finished within five seconds of each other to lead the VMI men's cross country team to a 32nd place finish on Friday at the Paul Short Run, hosted annually by Lehigh University.

Mujezinovic (Herndon, VA) placed 98th overall with a time of 25:09 in the event's Brown 8K race. Cowart came in with a clocking of 25:14, good enough for 112th of the 298 competing runners and 45 teams. Junior Matt Satterwhite turned in an impressive time of 26:08 to place 195th for the VMI men, followed by freshman Marshall Dalessandro (26:39, 229th). Rounding out the scoring for the Keydets was junior Matt Sagar (26:40, 230th). Also competing for the Keydets in the race were freshmen Noah Hagos (26:58, 248th) and Ray Delgado (28:17, 283rd).

HC SCHEDULE

Fri, Aug 29
VMI Season Opener
at Lexington, Va.

Sat, Sep 20
Liberty Invitational
at Lynchburg, Va.

Fri, Oct 03
Paul Short Invitational
at Lehigh, Pa.

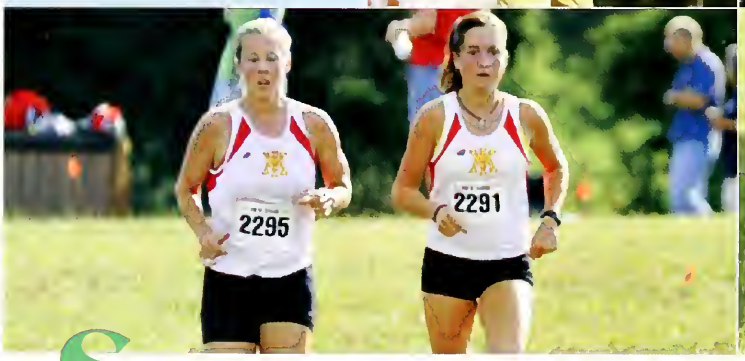
Fri, Oct 17
Blue Ridge Open
at Boone, N.C.

Sat, Nov 01
Big South Conference
Championships
at Lynchburg, Va.

Sat, Nov 15
NCAA Regional
Championships
at Winston-Salem, N.C.

XC

Granger, Hannah
Sophomore
Randor, Pennsylvannia
Hawes, Erin
Sophomore
Manchester, Virginia
Mowatt-Larssen, Christina
Senior
Chantilly, Virginia
Pickett, Jenna
Freshman
Winchester, Virginia
Resetar, Laura
Returning Freshman
Fairfax, Virginia
Sing, Jennifer
Freshman
Franklin, Virginia
Stafford, Kelsey
Senior
Charlottesville, Virginia
Wortham, Carrie
Freshman
Richmond, Virginia



Sophomore Hannah Granger earned her first All-Conference finish to lead VMI to a fourth-place finish on Saturday at the 2008 New Balance Big South Conference Women's Cross Country Championship, presented by UCS.

Granger (Radnor, PA) placed sixth overall with a time of 18:56 on the 5K course, becoming only the second Keydet to earn a Big South All-Conference honor. Granger's finish led the Keydets to their best-ever finish in a conference cross country championship, coming in fourth of the nine competing teams after being voted sixth in the conference's preseason poll.

Freshman Jenna Pickett turned in an impressive 18th-place performance with a time of 19:41, placing sixth among freshmen in the race. Classmate Carrie Wortham finished 23rd with a personal-best 20:11 clocking, followed by senior Kelsey Stafford (20:25) in 28th overall. Freshman Jennifer Sing rounded out VMI's competitors by placing 61st with a time of 23:27.

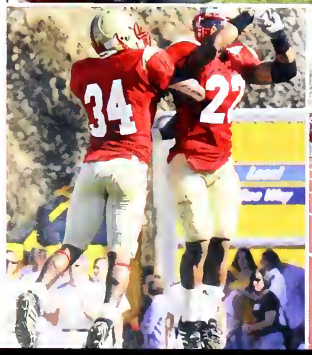
Women's Cross Country

XC Schedule 09

Fri, Aug 29	VMI Season Opener	Lexington, VA	5 p.m.	2nd of 4
Sat, Sep 20	Liberty Invitational	at Lynchburg, VA	9:15 a.m.	3rd of 6
Fri, Oct 03	Paul Short Invitational	at Lehigh, PA	11:00 a.m.	No Score
Fri, Oct 17	Blue Ridge Open	at Rock Hill, SC	4:30 p.m.	15th of 26
Sat, Nov 1	Big South Conference Chships	at Lynchburg, VA	10:30 a.m.	4th of 9
Sat, Nov 15	NCAA Regional Championships	at Winston-Salem, NC	11:00 a.m.	

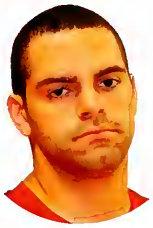
VMI Football

Go Keydets! Go Keydets! Go Keydets! Go Keydets! Go Keydets! Go Keydets!



Sr. Keith Taylor

One of the most experienced players on the team...can play both safety positions... one of the most physical players in the secondary... listed on the post-spring depth chart at backup strong safety but has the experience and ability to step into a starting role.



Sr. Nick Mims

Was moved to the offensive line late last season and continued in that role in spring practice...one of the most athletic linemen on the team and will be a welcomed asset on the offensive line... worked out at left tackle and will join converted D-lineman Ben Brandt in that spot to give the Keydets a solid left side of the offensive line...worked hard in off-season conditioning.

Jr. Tim Maypray

Has developed into one of the most dynamic performers to ever wear a VMI football uniform...named Lindy's Magazine 2008 Big South Conference Preseason Offensive Player of the Year... can hurt defenses a number of ways with his versatility... greatly improved his blocking ability last year and in the recent spring practice... will be counted on to spark the offense again this season with his big-play ability.

Go Keydets! Go Keydets! Go Keydets! Go Keydets! Go Keydets! Go Keydets!

Keydets Roll to 49-27 Win Over Presbyterian during Season Finale

Junior Tim Maypray scored four touchdowns to help VMI to a 49-27 win over Presbyterian on Saturday afternoon at Foster Stadium.

VMI closed out the season with a win on Senior Day and a 4-7 mark. Presbyterian finished with a 4-8 record.

The Keydets posted their first win a season finale since 2002 when the Keydets knocked off The Citadel 23-21 in Charlotte, N.C. VMI also logged a 4-2 mark at home, their first winning record in Lexington since 2003.

The Keydets rolled up 648 yards total offense including 497 on the ground and converted 8 of 11 third down tries. The 1,138 combined yards total offense by both teams set a new Foster Stadium record surpassing the 1,060 yards churned up by VMI and Gardner-Webb in a three-overtime game won by the Bulldogs, 55-52 in 2005.

Junior fullback Howard Abegesah collected his ninth 100-yard game of his career with 151 yards on 15 carries against the Blue Hose. It was Abegesah's fourth trip over the 100-yard mark this season.

Junior quarterback Kyle Hughes returned to action after a four-game absence due to a hamstring pull and completed six of seven passes for 151 yards and one touchdown.

The season finale marked the first time VMI had all three of its top offensive weapons, Maypray, Hughes, and Abegesah playing in the same game since the Ohio game in week four.

PLAYERS, BLOOD DONORS, MANIACS, & MADMEN

VMI LACROSSE GIVES IT THEIR "ALL" THIS SEASON

Scorecard

Fri, Oct 03
Alumni Game
Sat, Oct 25
Washington and Lee
(Lee-Jackson Classic)
Sat, Feb 07
Navy
Sat, Feb 14
Army
Sat, Feb 21
Presbyterian
Sat, Feb 28
Bellarmine
Tue, Mar 03
Virginia
Sat, Mar 07
Robert Morris
Sat, Mar 14
Providence
Sat, Mar 21
Manhattan
Sat, Mar 28
Saint Joseph's
Sat, Apr 04
Marist
Sat, Apr 11
Siena (Senior Day)
Sat, Apr 18
Wagner
Wed, Apr 22
Mount St. Mary's
Sat, Apr 25
Canisius

A RECAP: VMI Lacrosse tops Wagner College in Staten Island, New York on April 18th, 2009 for their first win of the season.

The VMI lacrosse team earned its first win of the 2009 MAAC season Saturday, April 18th, topping the Wagner Seahawks 12-7 in a conference contest played in Staten Island, N.Y.

With the win, VMI moves to 2-10 on the season and 1-5 in MAAC action, while Wagner drops to 1-12 and 0-6 in league play. The Keydets were led by Colin Bosse, who equaled his career-high with four goals and dished out an assist. Junior Brett Leonard had three goals, and Tim Moran and Jacob Weimer added two a piece. Wagner was paced by Will Macumber, who had a pair of scores for the Seahawks.

There, the Keydets got goals from Moran, Leonard and Long to add to their lead, and take a 9-5 lead into the locker room. During the first half of play, VMI was outshot 20-16 and outgained in groundballs, 15-13, but still held the advantage.

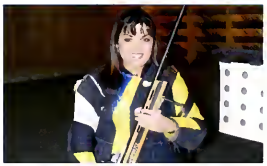
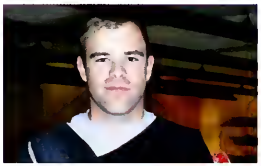
Coach Jeff Shirk begins his third year as the head lacrosse coach at VMI. He was named the new head coach of the VMI men's lacrosse team in July 2006.

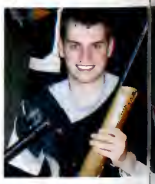
The second half was a more defensive oriented effort, with VMI outscoring Wagner 3-2 to account for the final margin. Moran and Leonard scored in the third, while Bosse added his fourth and final marker in the fourth quarter.

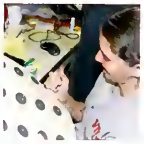
For the game, VMI was outshot 39-27, but Keydet keeper Alex Benedick made 10 saves in earning his first career win. Rubin made seven saves for Wagner in the loss.

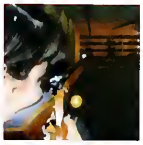
VMI Rifle

Meet the Team..







practice MAKES PERFECT

& perfect always wins...

This year, the rifle team is led by first classman, Chelsie M. Kosecki. Chelsie was the only female on the rifle team until this academic year. She considers her two classmates, Thomas Gottwald and James Leenhouts as equal captains as each of the three first classman had a role building the team this year.

MOST RESPECTED TEAM. The VMI Rifle Team shoots everyday, Monday-Friday from 4pm to 6pm after classes. Not only does this team shoot but they also conduct high intensity workouts that include long runs, sprints, and crossfit exercises, as well as going to the gym to lift weights. Exercise is very important to this team so that they are healthy and their resting heartbeat levels are lower than most athletes. The team is known around post for their intense style of exercising but also for having the best record out of all the NCAA teams at VMI. The Rifle Team has taken the MAC ROTC championship for the past 8 years in a row. This year both the second team and first team placed in the top two of their respected categories.

VMI Rifle Schedule

Oct 18	Morehead at Morehead, Ky.
Oct 25	USP/USP Women at Lexington, Va.
Nov 01	John Jay/IUP at Lexington, Va.
Nov 15	Coast Guard at Lexington, Va.
Dec 06	MIT/Mass Maritime/Wentworth at Cambridge, Mass.
Jan 24	Morehead at Lexington, Va.
Feb 07	The Citadel at Charleston, S.C.
Sectionals	@ University of Kentucky
Feb 14	All NCAA Teams at Lexington, Ky.
Feb 21	Penn State at State College, Pa.
MAC Championships	
Mar 07	All MAC Teams at Lexington, Va.

Soccer KICKS!

VMI men's soccer has placed four among those earning Big South Postseason Honors, headlined by goalkeeper Brian Sowell's All-Big South Second Team recognition, as announced Wednesday night at the League's annual men's soccer awards banquet, held in Conway, S.C.

Also earning postseason awards for the Keydets were Daniel Welsh, who was tabbed to the Big South All-Academic Team for the second-consecutive season, as well as freshmen Ayao Sossou and Brandon Gary, who both earned All-Freshman Team honors.

Ben Freakley enters his third season as head coach of the VMI men's soccer team. In his first two seasons, He has led the Keydets to a noticable improvement, going from just two wins his first year, to six in 2007.

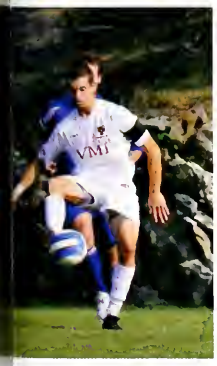
Sowell has a standout sophomore season in net for VMI, despite missing the campaign's first three games. He finished the regular season ranked fourth in the Big South in save percentage (76.1%), and eighth in goals against average. The second-year netminder pitched a pair of shutouts, coming in back-to-back games in mid-October, to boost VMI to their two wins of the 2008 campaign. In addition, the Yorktown, VA., native leads the Big South in saves per game, having stopped 5.58 shots per contest, more than 1.3 better than the next-best goalkeeper.

Welsh, a junior from Evans, GA., has played in 11 games this season for the Keydets. The midfielder scored his first career goal against Coastal Carolina, and has posted additional significant contributions off the field. Welsh holds a 3.80 GPA with academic stars, is an active member of the VMI Cadet Investment Group and holds rank in the Corps of Cadets. The Peach State native has been a multiple-time dean's list honoree, is a multiple-time Big South Presidential Honor Roll recipient and was named to last year's conference all-academic team. In addition, he was recently named to the CoSIDA/ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District Second Team.

Sossou, who hails from Frederick, MD., is a defender known for his speed and quickness. The freshman has played in 12 games for VMI this season, starting seven, and has been an integral part of the back line thanks to his speed and quickness.

Gary, who also is a defender, was one of the most reliable parts of the VMI starting lineup this season. The Richmond native played in all 16 contests for VMI, one of just three players to do so for the 2008 Keydets. He started 15 of those contests, and frequently showed leadership and tactical skill in his efforts on the back line, as he was often assigned to the opponent's top scorer.

Men's Soccer



Soccer Schedule

Mon, Aug 18
Belmont Abbey
Fri, Aug 22
Marshall
Sun, Aug 24
Richmond
Fri, Aug 29
Mount St. Mary's
Sat, Sep 06
East Tennessee St.
Fri, Sep 12
Wofford
Tue, Sep 16
N.C. State
Sat, Sep 20
Longwood
Tue, Sep 23
Washington and Lee
Sun, Sep 28
Coastal Carolina
Sat, Oct 04
UNC Asheville
Wed, Oct 08
Howard
Sun, Oct 12
Winthrop
Sat, Oct 18
Appalachian State
Wed, Oct 22
Radford
Sun, Oct 26
Gardner-Webb
Fri, Oct 31
High Point
Tue, Nov 04
Liberty
Sat, Nov 08
Presbyterian College

In Soccer GRAVITY ISN'T A LAW...

It's a suggestion.

The 2008 VMI women's soccer season was one to remember for Keydet fans, as the team enjoyed its most successful campaign to date, one which led to the Big South Conference Semifinals and netted several league honors.

The recognitions continue to pour in for the program, as the website www.SomisSports.com, listed VMI among the 25 Most Improved Division I programs in the country. The rankings are computed by comparing last year's ranking, an approximation of net goals per game, to this year's ranking.

Additionally, the NCAA has recently published its RPI rankings for the 2008 season. In the report, VMI jumped 88 spots from last season, tied for the 16th-highest climb among the 318 programs listed.

VM
19

4

5
17

VM
2

VM
18

Men's Swimming

Swimming Schedule

Sat, Oct 11	James Madison
Sat, Oct 11	Georgetown
Sat, Oct 25	Gardner-Webb
Sat, Oct 25	North Carolina
Sat, Nov 01	Radford
Sat, Nov 08	Johns Hopkins
Sat, Nov 08	Loyola (Md.)
Sat, Nov 08	Saint Francis
Sat, Nov 15	NJIT
Sat, Nov 15	Mount St. Mary's
Sat, Jan 17	Pfeiffer
Sat, Jan 24	Mount St. Mary's
Sat, Jan 24	Howard
Sat, Jan 24	St. Peter's
Thu, Jan 29	Davidson

Sat, Feb 21
CCSA Championships

The VMI men's swimming & diving team placed fifth and the women's team placed 11th at the final day of the Coastal Collegiate Swimming Association (CCSA) Championships, held at the Gabrielsen Natatorium on the campus of the University of Georgia.

The men were once again paced by freshman James Goodwillie, who bested his own 200 backstroke record with a 1:55.43 in the consolation finals, placing ninth in the event.

The Keydets got a 10th-place showing in the 200 butterfly from junior Tristan Euritt, where he swam a personal-best 2:07.03. VMI also got 11th-place finishes from junior Will Rowcliffe in the 100 freestyle, coming up just two-tenths off the varsity record with his 47.43 clocking, and senior Dan Bogert in the 200 breaststroke with a time of 2:14.95. Senior Trevor Stanco also placed 11th in the 1650 freestyle, where he turned in an 18:28.25 clocking to lead a trio of Keydet competitors.

With VMI and Howard tied in the team competition for fourth place entering the final event, the 400 freestyle relay, the Keydets managed only a fifth-place finish, coming in nine seconds behind the Bison in third place. The teaming of Rowcliffe, Euritt, junior Justin Ferrell and freshman Matt Elliott swam a 3:15.94 in the event.

For the women, the relay team of sophomore Chelsea Nugent, senior Stephanie Ortiz, sophomore Lizanne Carlos and freshman Veronica Lentsch also established a new school record in the 400 freestyle relay, turning in a time of 4:16.20, besting the old mark by over 11 seconds.

Women's Swimming

Swimming Team Roster:

Allard, Briana
Carlos, Lizanne
Lentsch, Veronica
Nugent, Chelsea
Ortiz, Stephanie

Alexander, Sean
Alfree, Rory
Barnett, Charlie
Bogert, Daniel
Brush, Alex
Craft, Preston
Dale, Matt
DeVaik, Paul
Doxsee, Jon-Thomas
Elliott, Matt
Euritt, Tristan
Fernandes, Jamie
Ferrell, Justin
Goodwillie, James
Hayes, David
Howard, Benji
Hufnagel, Alex
Jeffcoat, Josh
Jetot, Andrew
Kenny, Josh
Miles, David
Ponsiglione, Paul
Rowcliffe, Will
Russell, Stephen
Schumacher, Mark
Snow, Tyler
Stanco, Trevor

When the going gets tough...

THE TOUGH GET GOING

For the first time since joining the Big South, the VMI men's track and field team earned an overall runner-up finish in a conference outdoor championship, as the 2009 New Balance Big South Outdoor Track and Field Championships concluded Saturday. April 18th, at Cupp Stadium in Radford, Va.

VMI was in a battle for the runner-up position all day, as Coastal Carolina dueled with the Keydets for that spot throughout the meet. The final results came down to the 4X400-meter relay late in the meet, and behind the efforts of Felix Kitur, James Alexander, and Kyle Fuller, VMI was able to finish fifth to clinch the second-place finish with a time of 3:19.36. All told, the VMI men's and women's programs combined for over 50 seasonal or lifetime bests.

Men's Track & Field

Men's XC Schedule
2008 - 2009

Sat. Apr 11
Univ. of Virginia Invitational
Thu. Apr 16
Big South Outdoor Championship
Fri. Apr 17
Big South Outdoor Championship
Sat. Apr 18
Big South Outdoor Championship
Thu. Apr 23
Penn Relays
Thu. Apr 30
Liberty Last Chance
Fri. May 15
IC4A/ECAC Championships
Fri. May 29
NCAA East Regionals

Women's Track & Field

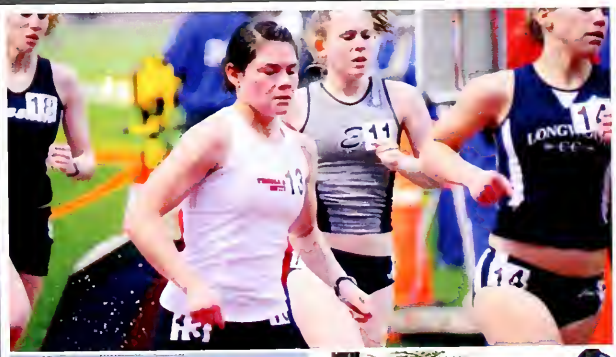
Women's Track Roster

Feole, Michelle
Granger, Hannah
Hackemeyer, Hope
Harlston, Jasmine
Harris, Aquisi
Harrison, Kamin
Lamneck, Kale
Martinez, Eliza
McCann, Zipporah
Pickett, Jenna
Roselar, Laura
Sellers, Shannon
Sing, Jennifer
Stafford, Kelsey
Williams, Chandale
Wortham, Carrie

Women's Track Schedule

Sat. Dec 06	Kent State Golden Flash Gala
Fri. Jan 23	Great Dane Classic
Sat. Feb 07	VMI Winter Relays
Fri. Feb 13	Liberty Quad
Sat. Feb 14	Akron University
Fri. Feb 20	Big South Indoor Championships
Sat. Mar 07	IC4A/ECAC Championships
Fri. Mar 27	VMI Weal Invitational
Fri. Apr 03	Duke Invite
Fri. Apr 10	Univ of Virginia Invitational
Sat. Apr 18	Big South Outdoor Championships
Thu. Apr 23	Penn Relays
Thu. Apr 30	Liberty Last Chance
Fri. May 15	IC4A/ECAC Championships
Fri. May 29	NCAA East Regionals

Go Keydets Go Keydets Go Keydets Go Keydets Go Keydets Go Keydets



Senior Leon Barrow

Split time at heavyweight with Josh Wine...Went 9-9 overall and 3-3 in dual matches...Won the heavyweight class at the Davidson Open (12/1)...Scored a dual victory in VMI's 21-14 win over Campbell (1/12)...Won a match at the Southern Scuffle and at the All-Academy Championships...Also played on the football team at defensive line.

Senior Kyle Elgert

Competed in 11 of VMI's 14 duals...posted a 6-2 win at 197 lbs against Rory Bosek of Liberty...wrestled at 174, 184 and 197...posted a major decision at the All-Academy Championships, wrestling at 197 lbs.

Sophomore John Pope

Competed in 12 of VMI's 14 dual matches...Placed fourth at the Davidson Open at 125 pounds...Pinned Mostafa Ibrahim of George Mason while wrestling his lone match of the year at 133 lbs...Defeated Tyler Sim of The Citadel for his first SoCon win.

Wrestling
Captures Second Straight SoCon Championship

Sophomore Josh Wine captured his second straight Southern Conference Championship with a 4-2 decision against UNC Greensboro's Joe Sheffield, winning the heavyweight championship and earning an automatic bid to the NCAA National Championships, being held in two weeks in St. Louis, Mo.

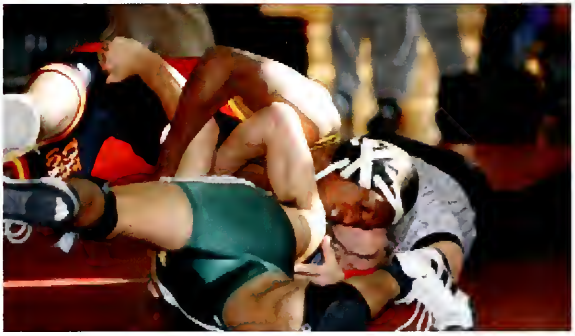
Wine (Fredericksburg, VA/Massaponax) was one of VMI's four placewinners at the SoCon Championship, held at the McAlister Field House on Post at The Citadel. VMI had fourth-place finishes by Joe Munno (149), Andrew Szymborski (174) and Ronnie Ellsworth (197), placing fifth of the six teams competing.

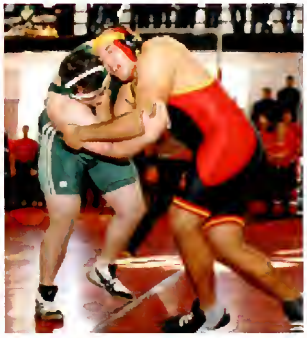
Munno (Glen Allen, VA/St. Christopher's) lost a major decision to Appalachian State's Savva Kostis to begin the day, then won a 9-2 decision over Justin Sparrow to reach the Consolation Final. There, he wrestled a closer match with Kostis, but came out on the losing end, 11-5.

Szymborski (Crown Point, IN) got off to a good start, taking a 5-2 decision over Davidson's Kevin Cook, before falling to the eventual champion, Chattanooga's Jason McCroskey, in 5:30. Szymborski bounced back to pin ASU's Logan Parce in only 44 seconds, before being pinned at 5:17 by UNCG's Byron Sigmon.

Wine will continue his season at the NCAA National Championships, beginning on Thursday, March 19 at the Scottrade Center in St. Louis, MO.

VMI Wrestling





Women's Soccer

Mixed Rifle

VMI NCAA Sports

Building Leaders in all Walks of Life

Men's Cross Country

Basketball

Men's Soccer

Baseball

Lacrosse

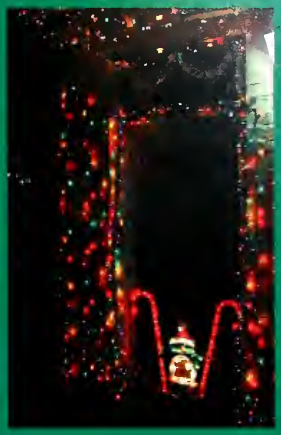
Football

Women's Cross Country

Basketball

Track & Field

HOLIDAYS 2008- 2009



MERRY CHRISTMAS CLASS OF 09

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"The very first law in advertising is to avoid the concrete promise and cultivate the delightfully vague."

~Bill Cosby

Congratulations to Cadet Justin Y. Adkins and the Class of 2009

Fly Like An Eagle
Fly like an eagle, my boy.
Into the vast space above,
Leaving all the petty jealousness
And the naggin insecurities below,
Into the realm where you and
You alone are the lord of the realm.
Where only you are responsible for,
Whatever happens to you.
It's a space where not the many can be found,
For not many have the will nor way to reach,
But once you reach there you are.
In a league of your own, untouched by anything,
Victory and defeat shall have the same meaning,
And mere mortals cannot touch you.
Tower shall you above all rivalries and plotting,
And Fly alone shall you in a world of your own,
Proud and majestic, fearing none in life.
- Ratnaker Sadasyul

Great achievement is usually born of great sacrifice, and is never the result of selfishness.
Napoleon Hill

We are so proud of your accomplishments and immense success

Love, Dad, Mom, Nick and Elizabeth

Josh Byerly- Class of 2009

All my growth and development led me to believe that if you really do the right thing, and if you play by the rules, and if you've got good enough, solid judgment and common sense, that you're going to be able to do whatever you want to do with your life.

Congratulations Josh, you continue to make us proud.

We love you, Dad, Dani, Chad, Jessica, Stanley, Grandad and Mimi

Richard B. Gammon
Class of 2009

To Be a Virginian
either by
Birth, Marriage, Adoption
or even on one's Mother's side
is an Introduction
to any State in the Union
a Passport to any Foreign Country
and a Benediction from
Almighty God

Congratulations Richard
We are so proud of you!
Love Mom, Dad & family

Dan Fiasconaro

Following in your brother's footsteps you have created a legacy

We are so proud and love you,
Mom, Dad, Greg, Alex, Allison and Lia

"being confident of this,
that He who began a good
work in you will
carry it on to completion
until the day of Christ Jesus."
Phil. 1:6

Congratulations Cadet Nathan Warner! Class of 2009!

"Trust in the LORD with
all your heart and He
will make your path
straight" Prov 3:5-6

How far you have traveled...

From rat year to:
Academic honors
S2 Captain
Honor Court for Education and
Defense

Next:
Medical School

And Then,
The future is limitless!

"I can do all things through
Christ who strengthens me."
Phil 4:13

We love you and are
so proud of you!

Mom, Dad, Jeff,
Grandma and Grandpa

Michael, You have this treasure in a jar of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from you. You were hard pressed on every side, but not crushed, perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned, struck down, but not destroyed. You always carry around in your body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in your body. 1 Corin. 4:7-10. We are so proud of you Mijo!

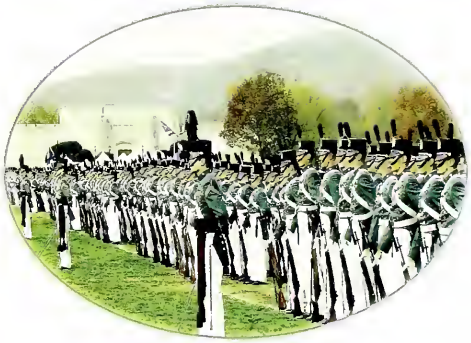
Congratulations on your graduation!

Love, Dad, Mom, David & Rachel

CONGRATULATIONS
J. MICHAEL SCHROEDER

on your graduation from VMI. You accomplished your mission with dedication, persistence, excellence, and integrity.
You are one of America's finest!
We are very proud of you.
God bless you. Love, Mom & Dad.

TREVOR VAN YAHRES STANCO
AND FRIENDS OF VMI 2009



YOU TOOK THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED, AND THAT HAS INDEED MADE THE DIFFERENCE. GOOD FORTUNE AND HAPPINESS AS YOU CONTINUE YOUR MARCH THROUGH THE YEARS.

WITH GREAT PRIDE AND LOVE,
MOM, DAD, ALEXA AND MOLLY

Jared Meier Klajnbart '09
CITIUS ALTIUS FORTIUS

"When the legends die, the dreams end, when the dreams end, there is no more greatness."
May you leave behind a legacy of greatness.
Salud! Mom and Dad

Congratulations!
Tammy, Wei-Yu,
Andrew and Ian

We're very proud of our
Band Guys!
Love YOU!
Mom and Poppa Costello

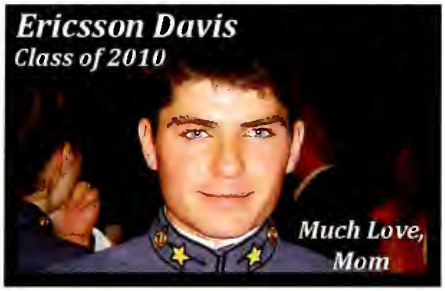
Dear Kyle,
Congratulations on the completion of your 4th class year. You've had success in the classroom, on the track and in forming friendships that will last the remainder of your life.

We love you, Mom and Steve

YOU MADE IT,
JORDAN IIDA!

We are all very proud of you. Like you nailed this picture, keep up the good work.

Who loves you?
Dad, Mom, Darian, Brandan, and Maury



CADET
ALEXANDER K. KARI

CLASS OF 2009
WE ARE VERY
PROUD OF YOU.

LOVE, MOM & DAD

Burton P. C. Bacheller III
Class of 2011

We are proud of you -
two more years!

Love Mona and Pop

Michael Shafer

In a short time, you've changed
from a rat into a cadet, a
roughneck into a gentleman,
and a youth into a man.

Congratulations on a Successful Year!

RING FIGURE - CLASS OF 2010
Congratulations JARED LAWSON, JACOB COX, ROB ALLEN, and A. LAIRD BRYANT. Your families are proud of your accomplishments and wish you ongoing success in all your endeavors. God Bless.

Ring Box By The Class of 2010.; designed and built by Melvin Lawson

Frank Ellis
Class of 2009

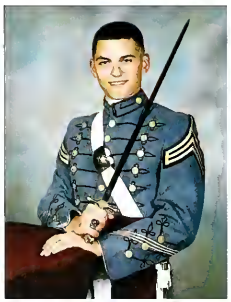
Frank, I'm very proud of you!

Love, Dad

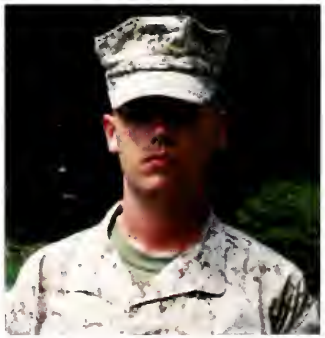
Ens(sel)
R. Garth Willard
VMI 2009

"Live the Dream"

Love, Mom, Dad, and Drew



Joshua Nolan Anderson
Class of 2009



You've worked so hard and we're so proud of you.
Semper Fidelis -
Love, Mom and Dad

Graduation 2009
Rammy Barbari

To our Dearest Son and Brother,

Rammy, Congratulations on your graduation. We are so proud of all your accomplishments at VMI and what you've done with your life so far. May God give you the patience, wisdom, and courage you will need to fulfill your dreams. We will always respect and love you for the beautiful person you are.

With all our love,
Mom, Dad, Christina, and Kelly

CONGRATULATIONS
TORY HOYT

From the Rat Line to the Inauguration Parade!

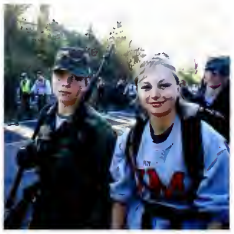
Always keep that can-do spirit you had as a Rat and be proud of your accomplishments.
H.E.D.

WELL DONE!!

Dad, Mom and Tyler

Congratulations Jackie Briski!

All that is gold does not glitter,
Not all those who wander are lost;
J.R.R Tolkien



We are proud of you! Love Mom, Dad, Meredith and Melissa

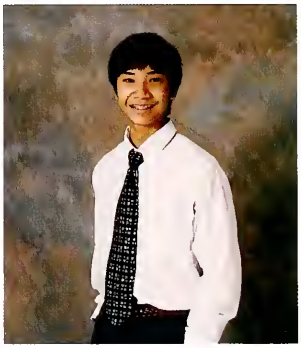
Jacob T. Riggs
Class of 2009
Virginia
Military
Institute

FLY NAVY!

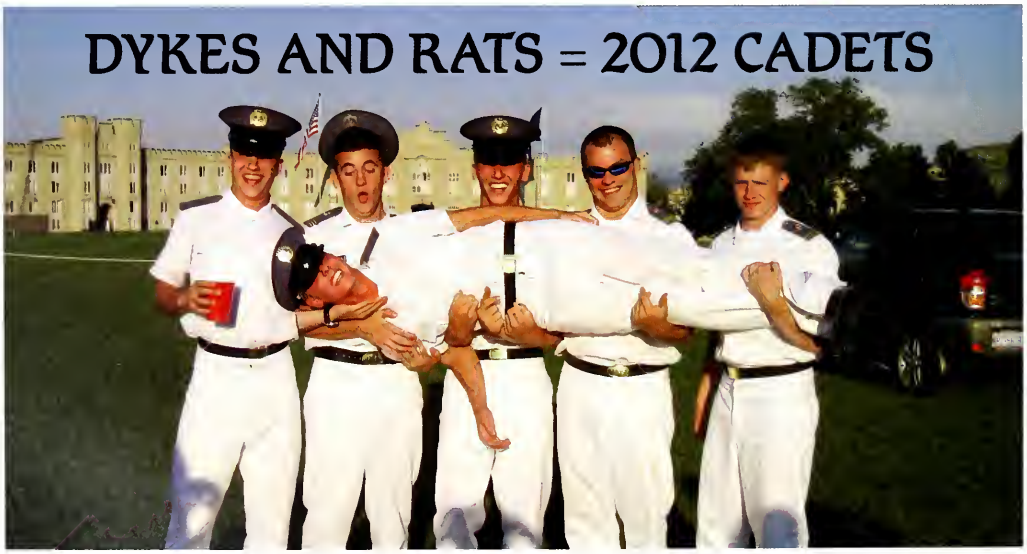
You've always chosen a different path and we are all very proud of you!! You've been through many tough days – we've seen you sleep in lawn chairs, celebrate birthdays with your family, enjoy many a tailgate and don't forget that class ring. I hope you always follow your dreams and I pray God will keep you safe along the way!

Love Mom , Matt, Jimmy, Gran & Grandpa, Uncle Chris, Aunt Jenn, Christa and Johnny

VINH Q. DO



Vinnie, we are so proud of you!
Love, Mom, Dad and Sis



Congratulations Cadet T.D. Hoover and Class of 2009/2012
Love, Mom and Dad

Charles M. Hunter
Class of 1929

Charles M. Hunter (Budge) Class of 2010

Charles M. Hunter
Class of 1975

We are so proud of you. Love Mom, Dad, and John David

THE DYKE AND HIS RAT

Jarrett L. Bennett and Charles G. Wheeler, Jr.

Never a finer match was made than this Dyke and his Rat!
Jarrett, you are the BIG BROTHER, the MENTOR, and FRIEND
To whom I wish to express my gratitude, appreciation and a thank you.
No matter where the path of life takes you, please know that you will stay in our hearts
forever. Charlie and I will always be there for you, you are family.

We Congratulate You Sir, With a Job Well Done!
With Our Love and Admiration

Mary C. Wheeler (your rat-mom) and Charles Grafton Wheeler, Jr. (Charlie)

Roommates from Rat Year to First Class Year!
WE MADE IT!
(B3)

DAVID R. RADKE - CONGRATULATIONS!
DELTA/ CLASS OF 2009 AND U.S. ARMY COMMISSION

Dave,
You found your path in life with perseverance and resilience. With your strength you chose to rise to the challenge. You became a leader I knew you could and always can be. Travel your journey with integrity, honor and passion! May God be with you and bless your every step.

With Pride and love always - Mom, Dad, and Nate

Nick,
We are very proud of your accomplishments at VMI. Let your future be bright and full of wonderful opportunities. Congratulations and may you find success wherever life takes you!

God Bless - We love you.

Mom, Dad, Andy
Katy and Becky

RILEY PARKER KING
VMI 2012

FUN
ENGAGING
EXCITING
for active for students
(Bloom)

In Memory of Cadet Robert Knight '11

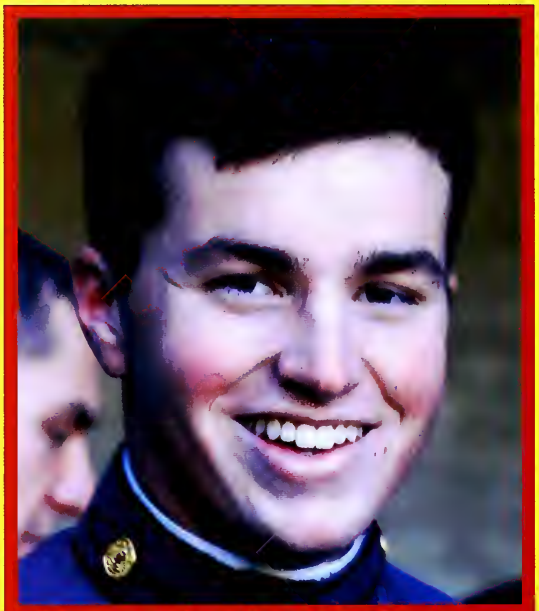
"You may be whatever you resolve to be"

Robert personified Stonewall Jackson's famous quotation above. Robert loved camping and being outdoors, serving his Boy Scout troop in all leadership positions and earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Active in sports at Smithfield High School, he lettered in football, wrestling and track. While at Smithfield, he achieved the rank of Lt Colonel in JROTC and was Batallion Commander when he graduated.

Beyond all these accomplishments were the intangible but equally important attributes about Robert. He was a beloved son and grandson, brother and uncle, nephew and cousin. He had a quick wit and definite opinions that he didn't hesitate to share when asked. At an early age, he set his sights on a military career and was focused on attending VMI. His dream was to be the best cadet in the best company while representing the I with great pride.

We ask that you honor Robert by serving VMI and our country as the best cadet you can be. Thank you for keeping his memory alive through your actions. – from his family.

"oh the places you'll go."- dr.seuss • henrico doctors hospital • march 25, 1987 • 7 lbs. 10½ ozs. • "wednesday's child is loving and giving" • mom • dad • grandma • poppie • nana • papa • uncle dexter and aunt nan • rachel • whitney • lauren • cozy coupe • rocks • bugs • sabot school • trips to "the country" • happy • funny • summer visits to aunt jean's • aunt june and uncle "bacon" • randy • roy • darlene • harry • carolyn norton • sarah josephs • riding bikes • family • cheese • easter egg hunts • the red jeep • fishing with poppie • collegiate school • after school • summer camps • waltie • deedee • "the cougars" • baseball • guitar • earth science award • mr. greenbaum • rock collection • class of 2005 • nags head • san francisco • sanibel • the "prize shell" • grand canyon • four corners • bryce canyon • maine • thunderhole • hiking • the asticou • newport • boston • new york city • charleston • quail ridge • gettysburg • sante fe • williamsburg • alaska • the river • shark's tooth "island" • sailing camp • golf carting • star gazing • growing things • a young vineyard • kayaking • sewing • coin collection • stamp collection • knife collection • curiosity • • "i love you the mostest/bestest" • jebbie • mosby • mr. kitty • pumpkin • bernie • petey • new market/ethyl corporation • powell economic endowment • spain • morocco • the rug story • deane and hugh • scott, jay, and julie • linda and jack • dr. and mrs. bundy • the waterfowl festival • mark and jody • the abacos • snorkeling • duck hunting • malalcue lodge • argentina • "pal/buddy/bosco/sweetheart/booboo" • guitar • beer brewing • photography • music • genealogy • civil war history • etchings • the still • "happy trails to you" • vmi • matriculation • hot • august 20, 2005 • • "meet your cadre" • rat bible • straining • the rat line • sweat parties • room 416 • josh, hamid, derrick • new market • break out • dyke - scott bartholomew • uncle dykes - dan rogers, genya skvortsov, tim papenfuse, wilson nance • co-dykes - albert young, drew thompson, steve anderson, joe bartol • the governor's inaugural parade in williamsburg • pettigrew academic scholarship in engineering • tailgating • "the round table" - j.b. bradshaw, josh byerly, john collier, bryce carter • room 305, "thirds" - pat donovan, jonathan kim, ted clarkson • corporal • the yorktown parade • movies • gun shows • parades • bowling • hydroponic gardening • concerts • sporting clays • hourigan construction • • vmi civil war round table • "hanging out" • room 205-"seconds", pat donovan, eric keirstead, tom saunders • ring dance • cameron • sergeant • trap and skeet team • appendectomy • room 145 "firsts"- pat donovan and jonathan kim • colonel bott • daniel hingley and the lab • firing "little john" • rat -stephen davis • passing the f.e. exam • graduation • what next? • hiking the appalachian trail? engineering? • "the best is yet to be"- robert browning • "what lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us" - ralph waldo emerson • "go confidently in the direction of your dreams, live the life you have imagined" - henry david thoreau • • we are so proud of you and love you so much • mom, dad, deedee, waltie, grandma, nana •



Bryce Andrews Carter
Class of 2009
"Charlie" Company

Christopher P. Lilly

As your journey at VMI ends, greater challenges and goals lie ahead. You have made us incredibly proud of you, through your determination and commitment to succeed. Congratulations on your army commission and VMI Graduation!

Love - Mom, Dad, Ethan, and Family

Congratulations Josh Gober
It was not always easy,
it was not always fun,
but it was always worth it!
We are so proud of you!!
Your browser may not support
display of this image.

Love,
Mom, Dad, & Meredith

EDWIN JOEL CRUZ - BURGOS

You have worked so hard and diligently and have made us so proud. Congratulations! We hope you continue to shine and become a positive force in society. May God bless you and keep you safe as you begin your new journey in the U.S. Air Force.

We love you,
Mom, Dad, Luzed & Javier

PATRICK W. DONOVAN VMI '09

Jacob Scott Collie
Class of 2009
We are so proud of you. We know you've worked very hard. May the Lord bless and keep you safe wherever you may go! Congratulations on your VMI Graduation! We love you.
Dad '84, Mom, Andrew, Zachary and Mark

Congratulations Quinn Adams! The journey has been challenging, but you made it. We are so Proud of You!!

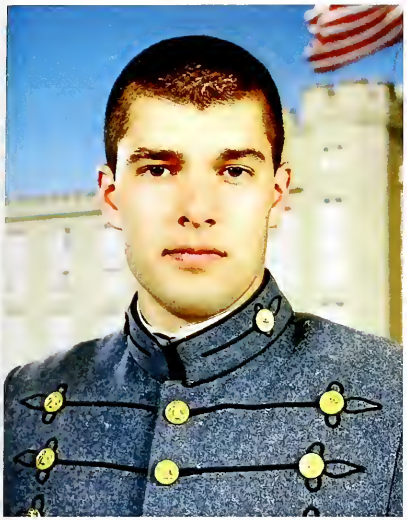
Love Mom, Dad, and Gasey

Congratulations

Cadet H.L. Temoney, you have grown into an outstanding christian man. We are very proud of your accomplishments. Stay strong, determined, and always put God first. Remember you are our hero.

Love,
Mom and Dad

Congratulations, Cpl Curtis Clayton Register and Class of 2011!
Just a little message from M.O.M.

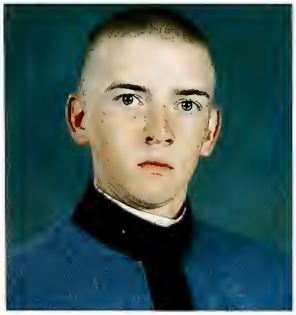


That which begins with a dream puts you to the test of giving it breath, but you must have faith and endurance to take the brick-scraping back sliding mistakes and carry-on past the bone-cracking life-slams to prepare steadfastly for the moment when the shoulder tap comes, "Ready?" Then, you can engage with audacious puissance a forthright "Yes, I am!"

Cadet Eric Douglas Jackson

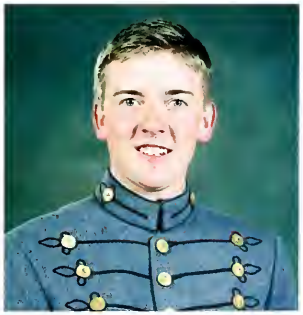
Fourth...

... To First



Congratulations!!

Love Always,
Mom and Dad



PROUD

PROUDEST

VMI CLASS OF 2010 RING FIGURE

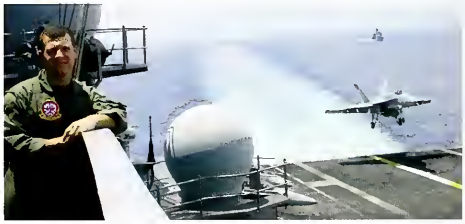
Congratulations
Cadet Brian Bopp

Believe and never give up!
With Pride and Love,
Mom, Dad, Katie, Kristen and Michael

Congratulations Alex and Chris, too!

Scott Jones
VMI Class of 2012
Congratulations Scott on surviving the Rat Line

Evan Scott Berenholtz
Class of '09



Congratulations on achieving your dream!

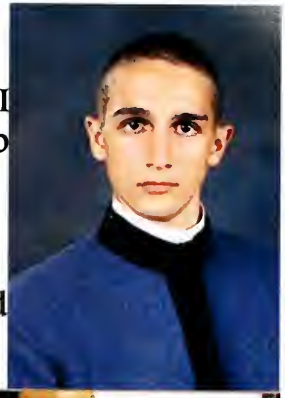
You worked hard and never gave up!

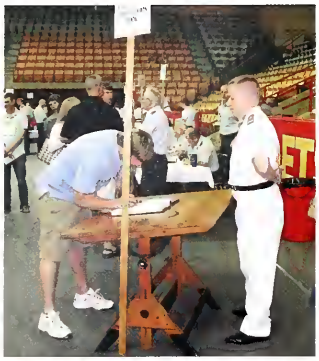
We are so very proud of you!

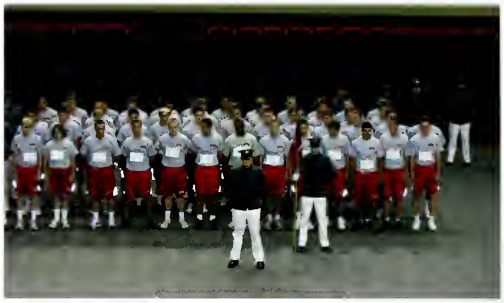
Love, Mom & Dad

Cadet Doug Alvey,
A true patriot! Congrats on finding your way back to VMI to prepare for future service to your country!

Love,
Mom (LTC Sandra Alvey) and Dad (CPT (ret) Alan Alvey)







Congratulations
Class of 2012

From Matriculation as the Rat Class of 2009+3 to Breakout!

Thanks to

Dyke Trent Blackman

For your mentoring and moral support through the ratline

ALEX DOSEFF

Matriculation, Rat Line, Hydrating the BRs, Legion 121, Breakout, Rugby Team, Berlin, Tailgating, Ring Figure, Longwood Trips, Rugby, Pipe Band, Rose Bowl, Summer School, RDC, Inauguration, Rugby, The Chieftains, Savannah, The Razors, Great BRs and Friends, Rugby, and Ac Stars!

Congratulations on a wonderful VMI experience!

The Lord bless you and keep you:

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you:

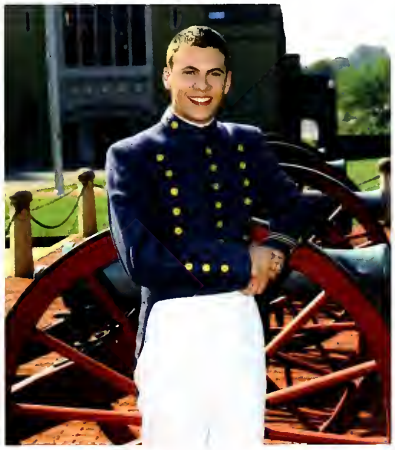
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Numbers 6: 24-26

Love, Mom, Dad, Dana, Cori, Matt, and all the girls

It was destined to be - by design, by tradition, by desire. Your achievement and strength have made it so. Congratulations! Take off and soar.

Grandfather - U.S. Navy Pilot
James H. Bustrin - 1942



Alexander James Friedland
VMI Class of 2009

The Dream...
Alex 1992

With much pride and love - Mom and Steve, Dad and Debbie, Grandma and Grandpa, Harrison, Cambria, Christopher, Amanda, Sophie and Maggie

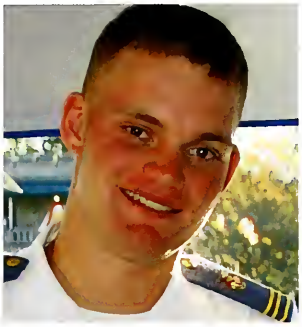
Alexander G. Kelley

We are so proud of you!

Your loving family

"But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

ANDREW J. ROHRBACK



From Rat to First, we are so very proud of you.
Congratulations on your wonderful accomplishments!
All our love, Mom, Dad, Tom and Lucky.

Congratulations!
Kat Hindley
Class of 2011

How very proud you make us!
We know much you love where you're planted and would like to impart this sage advice we wish we woulda got when we were your age:

Live each week like it's Shark Week!

Love, The Fam

WILLIAM J. WILD

I DON'T NEED A LOT OF SPACE, OR BIG FANCY WORDS TO TELL YOU HOW PROUD I AM OF YOU AND ALL THE GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENTS YOU HAVE ACHIEVED THIS YEAR. FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS. I KNOW YOU WILL GO WHERE THERE IS NO PATH AND LEAVE A GREAT TRAIL.
MY LOVE AS ALWAYS, MOM

THANKS COL. RICHARDSON

YOUR CLASS WAS AWESOME. YOU HAVE A SPECIAL PLACE IN OUR HEARTS.

ALWAYS GRATEFUL - PE 402

YOUR DEDICATION AND ENERGY WILL ALWAYS STAY WITH US.

JOSHUA CRAIG KENNY

Regimental S2 Lieutenant & Regimental Drum Captain

Class of 2009

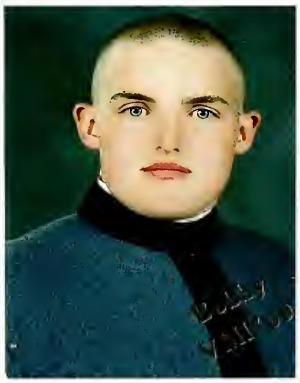
"We hope your dreams take you... to the corner of your smiles, to the highest of your hopes, to the windows of opportunities, and to the most special places your heart has ever known."

We are so proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad, and your Family

Congratulations on your First Year at VMI

We are so proud of you!



"The Joy of the Lord is your Strength!" (Neh 8:10)

Love and Best Wishes,
Papaw, Mamaw, Dad, Mom
Kimberley, Kambrey, and
Matthew

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CONGRATULATIONS
On Breakout
Cadet Kyle Richardson
Class of 2012

We are proud of the path you have chosen, and making it through the ratline.
We knew you could do it. All our love, Mom, Dad, Alec & Ben

Congratulations Sean!

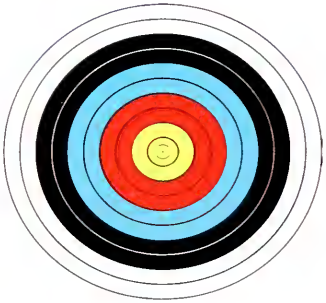
We are so proud of your achievements. We wish you a successful future and the best of Good Luck.

Love, Mom, Dad, Tara, The Peterson Family and cheers from your Donnelly Family in Ireland

CHELSIE MARIE KOSECKI

From SANDCASTLES, to RAT, to RICHES

- Burress Marksmanship Scholar Award
- Captain of the Rifle Team
- Athlete of the Year Award
- Editor-In-Chief VMI BOMB
- 2009 VMI Graduate
- Fantastic Daughter



Congratulations on your successes and a very bright future.

You have made us very proud.
Love always - Mom and Dad

Chris,

We are so proud of you for taking the road less traveled.

Love - Mom, Dad, and Brooke

Christopher L. Cole
Class of 2009

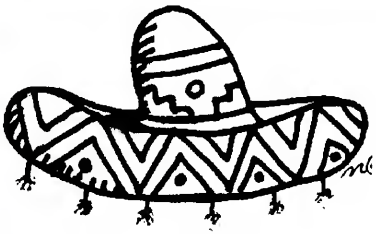
Joseph Randall Cunningham
May you always look back on your days at VMI with fondness and pride.
We are ALL so proud of you.
Love, Mom

William Justin Ballou

Class of 2009

JOB WELL DONE!

Your family is extremely proud!
Love, Mom



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CONGRATULATIONS
CLASS OF 2009
ON GRADUATION
FROM THE 2009 BOMB STAFF

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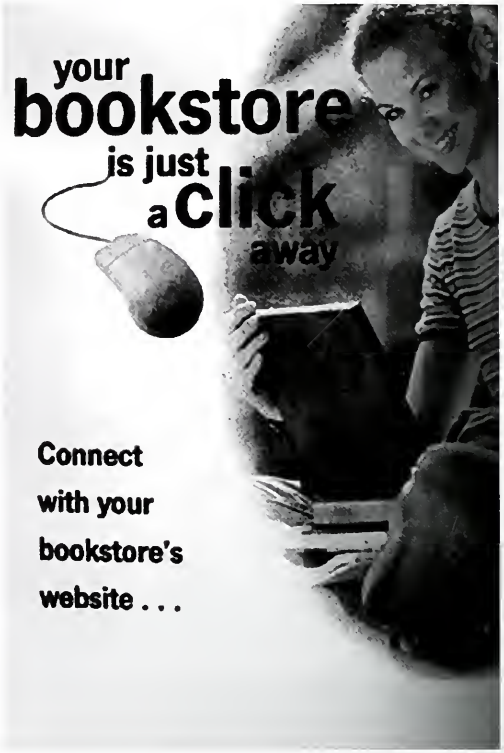

Congratulations to the Class of 2009

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Congratulations to the CLASS OF 2009

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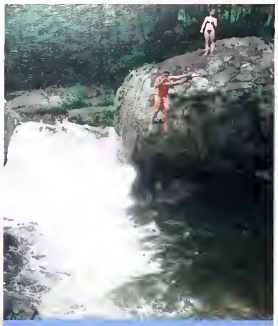
From The Editor-In-Chief.....



It has been an honor to be the 2009 Editor-In-Chief for the BOMB this year. I can say, without a doubt, it has been a challenge, but with the support of my friends, family, and mentors, I believe this book is a success and I hope you enjoy it.

This book would not have been complete without the support of my staff. To Thelmar Rosarda, Andrew Rice, Racheal Toman, Jonathon Kim, Matt Graham, Jake Brannen, and Fredy Jurkowitsch, thank you for being by my side and complying with my needs. To Colonel Bush and Mrs. Dickens - Thank you for your constant support. You never failed to point me in the right direction. Racheal - I know you will do an excellent job as EIC next year!

To my friends, (I hope I don't forget any of you but if I do, I apologize) thank you for always giving me encouragement and telling me it was all worth it in the end. I love you all!! Zoe- My rat -- I adore you! Please stay positive and always put 100% in your work. Keep aiming for those ac stars, I know you can do it. I will be here for your 21st and you better come visit me in NYC/Puerto Rico. Michelle - You became the sister I never had and I'm so glad we became friends. I can always count on you to be honest to me. Love you smudge! Holly- You are an amazing woman and I know you will do great things. I will miss you soooo much, but I know we will visit each other throughout the years as we both ended up in tropical islands! Enjoy Hawaii, and remember our pinky promise. Mandi- You are one crazy country girl, but I love you. I can always count on some good food and a bottle of wine with you. Love you. Jillian - You have become an amzing wife, a soon to be amazing mother, but first and foremost - an amazing friend. I missed you A LOT this year, but count on me to take care of baby Maebry whenever you need me to. Jackie- I'm so glad you roomed with us this past year. Good luck in the Army and stay in touch. I'm still counting on a crazy Richmond night with you. Thomas - you are the best "guy" friend a girl could have. I will miss you terribly. James- Pinky, keep shooting straight! All my 2009 "I'm on a boat" spring breakers - I will miss your company and all your smiles. Brownie, Karebear, Drew the "choopie", Zack, Mike, The Delta Boys, Clay, Jason, John - it has been a pleasure. Stay in touch and come visit me in Puerto Rico!

So here it is. I present you the 2009 VMI BOMB. Enjoy!
And how many Moes are there? Can you guess?

Yours Forever,
Chelsie Marie Kosecki Valentin
Class of 2009